

A Thematic History of the City of Wollongong

- Final Report -

For Wollongong City Council, 41 Burelli Street, Wollongong

Dr Terry Kass, B A (Hons), M A (Hons), PhD
Historian & Heritage Consultant
32 Jellicoe Street
Lidcombe
NSW 2141
(02) 9749 4128

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Abbreviations

<i>Balgownie School Centenary</i>	<i>Balgownie School Centenary 1889-1989</i> , Balgownie, 1989
Barwick, <i>Berkeley</i>	Kathleen H Barwick, <i>History of Berkeley</i> , Illawarra Historical Society, Wollongong, Second edition, 1978
Bayley, <i>Bulli</i>	William A Bayley, <i>Black Diamonds: History of Bulli District New South Wales</i> , Fourth edition, Illawarra Historical Society, Wollongong, 1989
Cousins, <i>Garden of New South Wales</i>	Arthur Cousins, <i>The Garden of New South Wales: A history of the Illawarra and Shoalhaven Districts 1770-1900</i> , Illawarra Historical Society, Wollongong, 1994 (originally published Producers' Co-op Distributing Soc Ltd, Sydney, 1948)
Davis, <i>Lake Illawarra</i>	Joseph Davis, <i>Lake Illawarra – an Ongoing History</i> , Lake Illawarra Authority, Wollongong, 2005
DECC, <i>Aboriginal People</i>	NSW – Department of Environment and Conservation, <i>A History of Aboriginal People of the Illawarra 1770 to 1970</i> , Department of Environment and Conservation, Hurstville, 2005
DP	Deposited Plan
Eklund, <i>Steel Town</i>	Erik Eklund, <i>Steel Town: The Making and Breaking of Port Kembla</i> , Melbourne University Press, Melbourne, 2002
Hagan & Wells	Jim Hagan & Andrew Wells, (ed) <i>A History of Wollongong</i> , University of Wollongong, Wollongong, 1997
Henderson, <i>Early Illawarra</i>	Krimhilde & Terry Henderson, <i>Early Illawarra - People, houses, life</i> , History Project Inc, Canberra, 1983
Irving, <i>Twentieth Century Architecture</i>	Robert Irving, <i>Twentieth Century Architecture in Wollongong</i> , Wollongong City Council, Wollongong, 2001
Jervis, 'Illawarra'	James Jervis, 'Illawarra: A Century of History' <i>JRAHS</i> , XXVIII, 1942, pp 65-107; 129-56; 193-248; 273-302; 353-374

<i>JRAHS</i>	<i>Journal of the Royal Australian Historical Society</i>
LPMA	Land and Property Management Authority
NAA	National Archives of Australia
<i>NSWPP</i>	<i>New South Wales Parliamentary Papers</i>
Richardson, <i>Bitter Years</i>	Len Richardson, <i>The Bitter Years - Wollongong during the Great Depression</i> , Hale & Iremonger, Sydney, 1984
Robinson, <i>Urban Illawarra</i>	Ross Robinson, (ed), <i>Urban Illawarra</i> , Sorrett, Melbourne, 1977
RPA	Real Property Application
Rogers, 'Thematic History'	Brian Rogers, Thematic History, McDonald McPhee Pty Ltd, City of Wollongong Heritage Study, June 1991, Volume 1, For Wollongong City Council
Secomb, Dapto	Nicole Secomb, Dapto Thematic History: Dapto Community Heritage Project, December 1999, For Wollongong City Council
SRNSW	State Records of New South Wales

Introduction

This thematic history has been prepared as the first stage for the Wollongong Heritage Study Review. It is NOT meant to be comprehensive history of all aspects of the history of Wollongong and its different suburbs and localities. It has been framed in the light of the methodology recommended by the NSW Heritage Office. It identifies the main ‘themes’ or historical processes and developmental forces, which have shaped the landscapes and streetscapes of the area. These themes need to be identified in order to understand the context that created the physical evidence that survives of these past activities and lifestyles throughout the district. Ultimately, this document is a *land-use planning tool*, aimed at assisting the informed identification of heritage items and an appreciation of their historical context. This history has centred on the major forces that have moulded the people and environment of the city.

Limitations of time and budget and the competing demands of a comprehensive Brief have ensured that this thematic history cannot be a full or detailed history of the city. Wollongong is blessed with a number of excellent professionally written histories to which those seeking a more detailed analysis of its history are directed, whilst many aspects of local history have attracted the attention of the historical society, which has produced excellent small publications. Limited primary research has been undertaken on some subjects, particularly subdivision plans. With the exception of Nicole Secomb, the histories of the greater Wollongong area do not deal with the expansion of subdivision that influenced the texture of the landscape and was instrumental in providing the sequence of housing development across the area.

I wish to thank Joel Thompson and Katie Thomas who oversaw this project for Wollongong City Council. Zofia Laba supplied useful material about early Polish and other migrant settlers in the area. Others who assisted in correcting errors and providing valuable advice and commentary included John Arney, Joyce McCarthy, Ben Meek, Michael Muston, Frank Osborne, Bruce Reyburn, Maureen Slapp, Helen Voysey. Sharralyn Robinson, CEO, Illawarra Local Aboriginal Land Council, provided valuable commentary on the Aboriginal/Koori history of Illawarra. Members of the Wollongong Heritage Advisory Committee who bring a wealth of personal involvement with Illawarra to their role have also assisted including Doug Boleyn, Ben Meek, Fidelia Pontarolo, Meredith Hutton, Carol Herben, Sharralyn Robinson and Dr Nicholas Gill. Discussions with the Committee of the Migration Heritage Project have assisted in clarifying some aspects of Illawarra history and aspects of significance for migrants. Ron Cairns and Geoff Mould imparted some of their immense knowledge of Illawarra coal mining on a most informative tour. Meredith Hutton has provided numerous suggestions and insights into Wollongong history and heritage.

The mapping staff at Wollongong City Council kindly converted my manual plotting of the subdivisions of Illawarra into the excellent maps in Section 8.0.

This study has been partially funded by the Heritage Branch of the New South Wales Department of Planning as a Community Based Heritage Study Review. The assistance of the Heritage Branch and the New South Wales Department of Planning in providing funding for this Study is gratefully acknowledged.

NOTE

Throughout this History, the term ‘Illawarra’ is used to refer to the district.

How to Use this History

This history is arranged in the following manner.

The major sections are **Contextual Essays** such as ‘1.3 Settlement’ or ‘1.5 Housing and Accommodation’. These provide a contextual history of change, development and continuity in the City of Wollongong. All the Contextual Essays are labelled as such to assist the reader.

The Contextual Essays are divided into sub-sections arranged by **Theme**. These ‘themes’ explain the principal forces of change that have shaped the development of the City of Wollongong and its peoples and created its current form. Such forces leave evidence of past practices, ways of life, technologies, economic and leisure time activities and so on.

To more precisely define what some of these forces were a series of **Secondary themes** is listed at the end of each theme, often with surviving examples that demonstrate that secondary theme.

Thus the arrangement of this history is:

Contextual Essay

Theme

Secondary theme (with examples)

1.0 Thematic History

1.1 Contextual Essay & Theme – The Natural Landscape

Like all areas, Wollongong is a product of man's interaction with its geography. There are three broad geomorphic zones in Wollongong – coastal plain, escarpment and plateau. The coastal plain has varying underlying geology creating a variety of landforms. Most of the rock strata of the coastal plain consist of alluvial and recent marine sediments at lower levels and Permian sediments and volcanic rock at higher elevations. The Berkeley Hills north of Lake Illawarra and are an outlying band of Permian volcanic rock. Mangerton Hill is an outcrop of tuffaceous Budgong sandstone. Much of the escarpment is composed of sedimentary material of the Permian and Triassic periods whilst the plateau is of Hawkesbury sandstone. In the northern parts of the area the rivers that drain into the Nepean, namely the Avon, Cordeaux and Cataract have cut incised valleys in the Hawkesbury sandstone.¹

An unusual feature of Illawarra geology is the presence of Glendonites, small crystals about 80-100 mm across found in globular masses with visible prisms. They are believed to form in a cold climate. They are rare on a worldwide basis but are visible around Flagstaff Point. They were first brought to prominence by James D Dana, a US geologist who visited the area with the United States Navy expedition of 1838-42 under Charles Wilkes. Also of interest there is the 'concentric structure' weathering patterns in the rock strata at Flagstaff Point.²

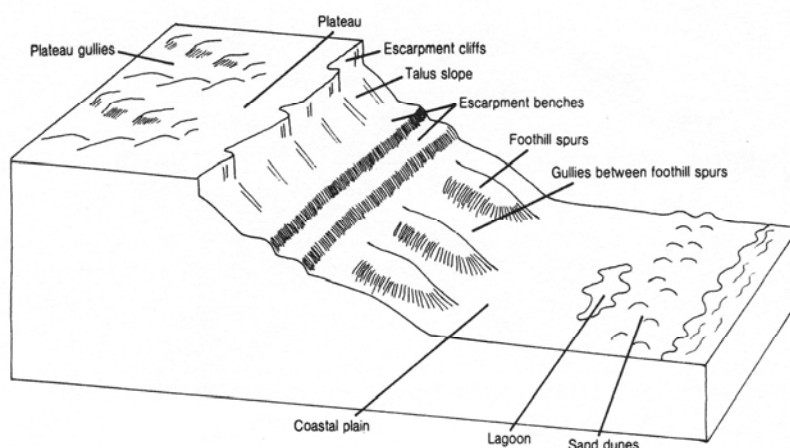


Figure 1 Schematic diagram of the topography of the Greater Wollongong area.
Source: L Fuller, *Wollongong's Native Trees*, second edition, pr Weston, 1982, p

15

¹ K Mills & J Jakeman, *Rainforests of the Illawarra District*, Calderwood, Jamberoo, 1995, p 10

² M Hutton, Conservation Study for Belmore Basin Conservation Area, Wollongong, NSW, For Wollongong City Council, June 1997, p 88

The escarpment backing Illawarra rises steeply from the coastal plain. It both hinders access into and exit out of Illawarra. But its steep vegetated slopes with the talus slopes below declining into the flatter coastal plain, its prominent peaks, often clad in cloud, and the sheer walls that occur in places serve to define Illawarra. The escarpment gives Illawarra a very strong sense of place.

Rainfall in the City of Wollongong is very high in comparison to much of the state, due to the abrupt escarpment that backs the city causing rain-bearing clouds to drop much of their moisture. Part of the plain near Lake Illawarra at the widest part of the plain, receives less precipitation due to the more distant escarpment that means far less rainfall.¹ In addition, isolated projections from the escarpment such as Mount Keira and Mount Kembla receive far greater rainfall.²

Vegetation on the coastal plain falls into two zones with an intermediate zone in between. From North Wollongong northwards, vegetation is affected by the presence of coal seams. A series of spurs projecting from the escarpment ensure the presence of species more typical of the escarpment such as *Eucalyptus pilularis*, *Eucalyptus botryoides* and *Syncarpia glomulifera*. On flatter areas, the trees were once large eucalypts and *Melaleuca* species. On some flatter areas, trees were often eucalypts with rainforest species as an under storey. On open treed areas, there was originally a ground cover of *Themeda australis* and *Danthonia* species, creating excellent grazing for livestock in the earliest flush of settlement. Odd patches of rainforest can be found along streams. From North Wollongong south to Berkeley the vegetation was mixed with open forest similar that in the northern part but lacking the species from the escarpment that grew on projecting spurs. Mount Drummond possesses a colony of spotted gum that was not found elsewhere in Illawarra. An area at Berkeley possessing volcanically derived soils also retains some patches of rainforest.

On the escarpment, vegetation is a complex mosaic of different types of temperate rainforest or schlerophyll forests. Rainforest is found in deep gullies between spurs, at the rear of benches or terraces on the down slopes and on the talus slope beneath the tops of the escarpment. The schlerophyll forest on the escarpment was different from that on the plain, with tall trees with canopies from 20 to 30 metres tall. Altitude influences eucalypt species along the escarpment. From Stanwell Park and Coalcliff to the north is a zone where the Wollongong type of vegetation merges into that of the Sydney region. Most notably, *Angophora costata*, a notable species in the Sydney area, is found in this transitional zone. The plateau possesses schlerophyll forest of medium height with a medium to dense under storey of eucalyptus or prickly shrubs. Hanging swamps are also found on the plateau usually on areas of deep sandy soil.³

Cabbage tree palms were mixed in the rainforest vegetation and were quickly noted by explorers. Painters always included them in their images of early Illawarra as a way of emphasising the exotic nature of the landscape. Cabbage tree palms were dominant in heavy scrub. Settlers cleared the palms by cutting them down. Since they did not burn, they split them to make rough huts whilst their pigs ate the chips from the inside. The tops were edible and were eaten by Aborigines and settlers.⁴

¹ Mills & Jakeman, *Rainforests*, p 12

² Mills & Jakeman, *Rainforests*, p 15

³ L Fuller, *Wollongong's Native Trees*, second edition, pr Weston, 1982, p 33-41

⁴ Jervis, 'Illawarra', p 283

Introduced species also began to invade the area. Grasses were introduced to provide feed for livestock once the better native grasses had been eaten out. In the 1920s prickly pear grew on shores of Lake Illawarra and children ate the fruit when it was ripe.¹

¹ Secomb, Dapto, np

1.2 Contextual Essay - Occupation by Aboriginal Peoples/Kooris

1.2.1 Theme – Living in harmony with the land

The name ‘Illawarra’, according to one interpretation, means echidna although it has also been interpreted as ‘pleasant place’. The name ‘Wollongong’ refers to the shape of the coast or headland.¹

Illawarra Aboriginal clans belonged to the Dharawal language group, which refers to the cabbage palm.² They have been in Illawarra for at least 30,000 years, though sea level change has obliterated any evidence of earlier occupation. Lower sea levels at the height of the coldest period (15,000-20,000 years Before Present) meant the coastline was 15 kilometres east of its present position at Stanwell Park. When the sea level stabilised at its current position about 6,500 BP, coastal lagoons at Lake Illawarra and Fairy Creek were formed altering the available food sources for the Aboriginal peoples of Illawarra.³

The groups occupying Illawarra were of the Wodi Wodi group of the Dharawal, and were known by where they lived on the coast, on the swamps or plateau and inland valleys as either the salt water, bitter water or fresh water people.⁴ Like other language groups, the Wodi Wodi lived in, with and through their land as illustrated by the story of Oola-boola-woo, the West Wind. He punished his five lazy daughters by blowing them out to sea on different occasions to create the Five Islands. The last daughter, Geera, sat depressed and sulky on the mountain range until she turned to stone and became Mount Keira.⁵

The sea and other water bodies provided a large part of their diet of fish and shellfish, though they also caught small marsupials and gathered some native tubers and grasses.⁶ Lake Illawarra, Tom Thumb Lagoon and Coomaditchy Lagoon were significant sources of food, whilst beaches and rock-pools offered other important nourishment. By using pit traps, snares and spears, they were also able to catch game in the bush. Carefully managed fires were used to create cool burns in the scrub to open up the forest for pasture suitable for grazing game such as wallabies and kangaroos. There is also evidence that they managed the impounding or exit for water from Lake Illawarra to manage their catch of fish or to protect their homes from flooding.⁷ Palm leaves were used for shelters and trees and shrubs gave materials for weapons, fibre for twine, dilly bags and nets as well as medicines.

¹ Hagan & Wells, p 7-9

² Hagan & Wells, p 9

³ Australian Museum Business Services, Aboriginal Heritage Study: Illawarra Escarpment, For Wollongong City Council, September 2008, p 33-4

⁴ DECC, *Aboriginal People*, p 6

⁵ Hagan & Wells, p 11

⁶ Hagan & Wells, p 12

⁷ DECC, *Aboriginal People*, p 10-3

Large groups gathered near the coast in spring, summer and autumn when fish were more abundant but were more scattered in winter months according to Val Attenbrow. However, Sharon Sullivan has posited that different groups used both zones shifting between them for resources and food.¹ There is evidence that they mainly used open camps but occupied overhangs or caves along the escarpment.² Mullet Creek contains a number of open Aboriginal occupation sites.³ There is ample evidence that they often shifted from one area to another taking advantage of the seasonal abundance of different food sources.⁴

Secondary themes

Country as giver of life

Following songlines/storylines (Five Islands, Mount Keira)

Gathering food

Producing implements

Finding shelter

1.2.2 Theme – Coping with invasion

Aboriginal people guided the earliest Europeans who entered Illawarra, most notably Charles Throsby. Yet, there were already white men there. According to Aboriginals who spoke to Bass and Flinders in 1796 there were some in Illawarra growing their own food.⁵ When Governor Lachlan Macquarie visited Illawarra on 15 January 1822, a crowd of about 100 Aboriginals met him near Tom Thumb Lagoon.⁶

Despite the initial pacific relations between the white invaders and Illawarra Aboriginals, they were affected by Governor Lachlan Macquarie's efforts to protect settlers from the depredations of Aboriginal groups in other areas, principally in the Hawkesbury-Nepean area near Sydney. In April and May 1816, a military detachment was stationed at Red Point (Hill 60) and 'cleared' areas of Illawarra and the South Coast.⁷

There is little evidence that there was any marked opposition to the entry of the Europeans with a programme of guerilla warfare. Targeted raids on the settlers' farms were conducted to collect food. Reprisals did occur and though they were brutal, they appear to have been few.⁸ Disputes, fights and even killings occurred between settlers

¹ Secomb, Dapto, np

² DECC, *Aboriginal People*, p 12

³ Secomb, Dapto, np

⁴ Australian Museum Business Services, *Aboriginal Heritage Study: Illawarra Escarpment*, p 45

⁵ M Organ, *A Documentary History of the Illawarra and South Coast Aborigines 1770-1850*, Aboriginal Education Unit, Wollongong University, 1990, p 9

⁶ Jervis, 'Illawarra', p 80

⁷ Australian Museum Business Services, *Aboriginal Heritage Study: Illawarra Escarpment*, p 37-8

⁸ DECC, *Aboriginal People*, p 18

and Illawarra Aborigines. Like elsewhere, these incidents were often not recorded but some were such as the threat to burn Thomas Binskin out of his farm and kill him in 1822.¹ Additionally, the introduction of air-borne and water-borne diseases unknown to Illawarra Aborigines reduced their numbers.

A listing of 2 July 1827 of blankets issued to Aborigines at Illawarra recorded a total of 21 at Five Islands and 35 at Illawarra.² It is likely there would have been far larger numbers in the district who were not issued blankets.

The entry of European settlers placed pressure on Aboriginal use of their land and the boundaries between different groups. A notable battle occurred in 1830 at Fairy Meadow between the Bong Bong Dharawal and those of Illawarra over the abduction of a Bong Bong woman by 'Dr Ellis'. The dead were estimated at 100 of the 1,500 warriors engaged in the battle. The dead were buried on Fairy Creek at 'the bottom of Townsend's paddock'. This appears to have been between the two arms of Fairy Creek.³ Henry Osborne at Marshall Mount was reputed to have treated the local Aboriginal people kindly providing food for them at Christmas.⁴ An old settler Alexander Stewart remembered that they were numerous in the area near Tom Thumb Lagoon, Mullet Creek and Lake Illawarra.⁵

Though they were unsuccessful in halting European penetration of their lands, the Kooris had some small successes. In 1835-6, the Aborigines of Illawarra objected to the cutting down of a large and venerated fig tree where Old Timbery was believed to have been born as well as being the site for ceremonies and birthing along traditional travel routes. As a result, the road that would have caused destruction of the tree was diverted. The tree survived until the 1990s, though daughter trees of the fig tree have since been planted and grow on the site in Figtree Park, near the intersection of O'Briens Road and the Princes Highway.⁶

Traditional lore and ceremonies were passed on despite attempts to fracture Aboriginal customs by the Europeans. What has been claimed to have been the last report of a corroboree was held at New Year 1839-40 including Aborigines from as far away as Newcastle, Brisbane Water and Kiama.⁷ On the other hand, a corroboree was also reported to have been held at Unanderra in the 1870s.⁸ There is evidence that Sandon Point was a traditional meeting place where the Gandangara from west of the escarpment met and traded with the coastal Dharawal.⁹

¹ M Organ, *A Documentary History of the Illawarra and South Coast Aborigines 1770-1850*, p 93, 127

² M Organ, *Illawarra and South Coast Aborigines 1770-1900*, AIATS, Woonona, December 1993, p 57

³ M Organ, *A Documentary History of the Illawarra and South Coast Aborigines 1770-1850*, p 157-9

⁴ M Organ, *Illawarra and South Coast Aborigines*, p 171

⁵ Secomb, Dapto, np

⁶ DECC, *Aboriginal People*, p 20

⁷ Hagan & Wells, p 20-1

⁸ M Organ, *Illawarra and South Coast Aborigines*, p 380

⁹ Therin Archaeological Consulting, Sandon Point Aboriginal Heritage Study, Volume 1, Report, For Wollongong City Council, June 2003, p 52

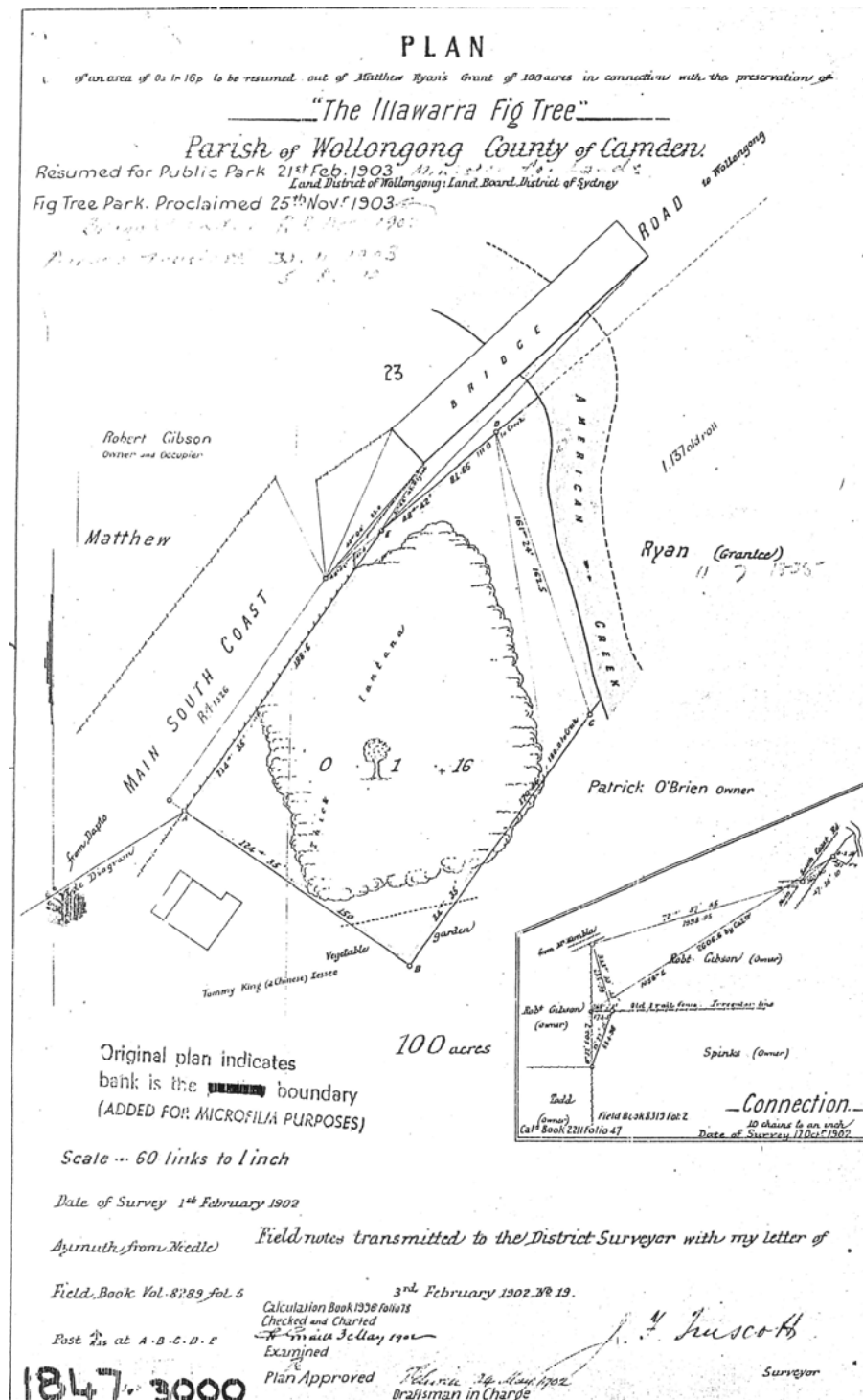


Figure 2 A plan of 1902 showing the park set up to preserve the Figtree revered by the Aborigines. Source: Ms.1847.3000, Crown Plan

As they have for past generations, Aborigines continued to care for their land and its flora and fauna despite the ravages of the white settlers. When a shooting party left Mr Marr's house on Mount Keira Road in September 1858, they had three Aborigines as guides. After the party shot over 30 wallabies and pademelons on and

around Mount Keira, they were persuaded by ‘Joey’ to leave unharmed the last wallaby they had found.¹

Secondary themes

Fighting inter-tribal battles (Battle site, Fairy Creek)

Leading white intruders to the Five Islands (Throsby’s track)

Coping with invasion

Actively resisting the invader

Resisting loss of land and customs (Figtree Park)

Losing country (Hill 60, Port Kembla)

Losing people

1.2.3 Theme – Maintaining a cultural identity

As European settlement covered more of their traditional food gathering areas the Illawarra Dharawal retreated to small creeks and along the shores of water bodies such as Lake Illawarra or Tom Thumb Lagoon that provided food. They also retreated into land less favoured for cultivation by the invaders, such as steeper and more heavily vegetated land along the escarpment. An Aboriginal fishing community grew at Berkeley on Lake Illawarra, in the 1860s that substantially enlarged the number of Aboriginals in Illawarra.² They continued to live on the shore of Tom Thumb Lagoon until 1928 when forced to shift for harbour works for Port Kembla. Here they continued to use traditional food sources such as Coomaditchy Lagoon.³

Reserves were set up for Illawarra Aboriginals. In June 1899, the La Perouse Aboriginal Mission opened a mission at Lake Illawarra. Rejecting proposals to shift them to Port Kembla, in 1900, the Aborigines Protection Board officially notified the creation of an Aboriginal Reserve at the entrance to Lake Illawarra for ‘permissive occupancy’ over 19 acres whilst distribution of blankets and tobacco was already under way at Lake Illawarra.⁴ By the 1890s, King Mickey Johnson had become a noted local figure. After converting to Christianity in 1899, he was the prime mover in having a church built on the reserve. He had previously been presented with a brass chest plate signifying that he was ‘King Mickey Johnson’ at the Wollongong Show in

¹ M Organ, *Illawarra and South Coast Aborigines*, p 106-7

² Australian Museum Business Services, *Aboriginal Heritage Study: Illawarra Escarpment*, p 42

³ DECC, *Aboriginal People*, p 22

⁴ Australian Museum Business Services, *Aboriginal Heritage Study: Illawarra Escarpment*, p 42; For the area of the reserve, see Parish Map, Parish Wollongong, Co Camden, 1907 edition, Lands Dept, at <http://parishmaps.lands.nsw.gov.au>, Map id 13807601

1896.¹ After his death in 1906, William ‘Bill’ Saddler was made ‘King of the Illawarra’ on 24 November 1909.²

Though forced into a position as fringe dwellers at the margins of white society, Illawarra Aboriginals were not restricted to Illawarra. They became part of a statewide network of movement between work in the country, or up and down the coast in fishing or labouring jobs, interspersed with return to their home district, often for Christmas camps near the sea which gave sustenance, life and the opportunity for family to be together on traditional lands such as Hill 60. Strong links were forged with the La Perouse Aboriginal community on the southern shore of Botany Bay in Sydney. These movement patterns allowed Illawarra Aboriginals to survive and escape Aborigines Protection Board control but also created bonds, often by inter-marriage with groups at La Perouse, the Burragorang Valley, Wallaga Lake and elsewhere.³ Continuing into the twentieth century and up to the present day, these were valuable links when Aboriginal activism became more overt from the 1930s onwards. The traditional importance of Sandon Point, Coomaditchy Lagoon and Hill 60 was continued by regular family gatherings and occupation into the twentieth century. Thus, these sites have direct links to many Aboriginal people living today up and down the NSW coast.

In 1883, requests for a boat from the Aborigines Protection Board for the Aboriginal group to use seem to have been the basis for a fishing industry developing near Hill 60.⁴ Hill 60, which had a magnificent view up and down the coast allowed them to spot schools of fish. Fish were caught to sell to the local white community and for their own consumption from the early 1880s onwards. Men could also work as coal trimmers or on the wharfs at Port Kembla nearby, whilst women worked as domestic servants. They also took advantage of the opportunity to send their children to Port Kembla Public School.⁵

However, their occupation of land at Port Kembla was unwelcome to the NSW Public Works Department and there were moves to restrict them to the land at the Reserve at Lake Illawarra, which was not a popular location for them. Most preferred to live near Hill 60.⁶ Various moves were made to shift them away from Port Kembla. Aboriginal occupiers of vacant Crown land near Port Kembla and Lake Illawarra were shifted to other sites in 1914.⁷

Another danger emerged from white interference in Aboriginal family lives. The 1909 *Aborigines Protection Act* gave the Aborigines Protection Board power to close reserves as well as to remove Aboriginal children from their families. Resistance became not just a matter of keeping traditions, cultures and bodies alive, but family life, the core of Aboriginal existence alive as well. In 1923, the Port Kembla Golf Club built a golf course on the lower parts of Hill 60. When it was proposed to

¹ M Dallas, Hill 60, Port Kembla Conservation Management Plan, Volume 1, Report, For Wollongong City Council & Department of Land & Water Conservation, October 2000, p 26

² Ibid, p 28

³ H Goodall & A Cadzow, *Rivers and Resilience: Aboriginal People on Sydney's Georges River*, UNSW Press, Sydney, 2009, p 87-8, 110

⁴ M Organ, *Illawarra and South Coast Aborigines 1770-1900*, p 150

⁵ DECC, *Aboriginal People*, p 39-40, 46-7

⁶ Eklund, *Steel Town*, p 117-8

⁷ M Organ, *Illawarra and South Coast Aborigines*, p 228

expand the course to a full 18 holes in 1929, the residents of Hill 60 gained the support of the Association for the Protection of Native Races and local Labor aldermen. Eventually, the golf club moved to its present site near Primbee.¹

From the 1920s, the Commonwealth Department of Defence wished to move them off Hill 60 since it was a gazetted military reserve. It was not until 1942 that they were compulsorily moved from Hill 60 due to the construction of major defence works on the hill to the Official Camp near Coomaditchy Lagoon, which also accommodated unemployed and other people lacking housing after the 1930s depression.² After the war, once the squatters left, the Aboriginals returned to Coomaditchy.

In March 1962, tenders were called for the construction of six houses to accommodate Aboriginals at Coomaditchy near the 'Official Camp', which had no running water, electricity or sewerage. As well as being vacant land the site was claimed to be an Aboriginal burial ground.³ The Coomaditchy Aboriginal Reserve, Shellharbour Road, Warrawong measuring 1 acre 23 perches became officially operational on 29 June 1962.⁴

Suburban development enabled some Aboriginal families to move to other areas such as Warilla, Barrack Heights, Koonawarra and Berkeley by 1976. Since better housing for Aboriginals was slow to be supplied, the growing thrust of land rights campaigns and legislation from the 1970s began to have its impact. Demands were made for the restitution of land that had traditionally been occupied for many years but had only recently been taken from Aboriginal owners. In 1995, a native title claim for Coomaditchy Lagoon was rejected causing widespread dissatisfaction with the process.⁵ Meanwhile, part of Hill 60 has become a recreation reserve, the site of Port Kembla High School and a football oval whilst a sewerage treatment works was sited on Red Point.⁶

By the 1980s, there was a 'significant' Aboriginal population at Dapto and Koonawarra.⁷ At the 2006 Census, a total of 3,121 people identified themselves as being of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander background out of a total population of 184,213 for Wollongong City (1.7% of total).

Formation of the Illawarra Local Aboriginal Land Council provided the Aboriginal/Koori community with a stronger voice in local affairs. Two sites have been significant focal points for Aboriginal efforts to maintain contact with their country – Hill 60 at Port Kembla and Sandon Point at Bulli. The campaign to preserve Sandon Point gained a strong focus with the establishment of the Sandon Point Community Picket in March 2001, which seeks to hold back the proposed residential development of the site by Stockland. Declaration of the site as the Sandon Point Aboriginal Place by the Minister for Environment, Bob Debus, under the National

¹ Eklund, *Steel Town*, p 122-3

² Eklund, *Steel Town*, p 125-6

³ M Organ, *Illawarra and South Coast Aborigines*, p 261

⁴ K Thinee and T Bradford, *Connecting Kin – Guide to Records: A guide to help people separated from their families search for their records*, NSW Department of Community Services, Sydney, Sept 1998, p 349

⁵ Eklund, *Steel Town*, p 129

⁶ M Dallas, Hill 60, Port Kembla Conservation Management Plan, Volume 1, Report, p 43

⁷ Secomb, Dapto, np

Parks and Wildlife Act in February 2007 was a significant achievement.¹ The campaign is continuing. The opening of the Jumbulla Aboriginal Discovery Centre at Bulli Tops on 7 May 2009 established a centre that would raise understanding of the role of Aboriginal/Koori people in Illawarra and Australia as well as greater awareness of their past and culture. Since it is located in a prominent location, even if some passersby do not visit it, Jumbulla will still raise awareness.²

Secondary themes

Learning to interact

Dealing with a controlled environment

Being forced to assimilate (Lake Illawarra Aboriginal Reserve site)

Keeping family together

Acknowledging wrongs committed by the early invaders

Suffering inequality in employment, housing, education and health

Working together to protect country (Hill 60; Sandon Point)

Maintaining an attachment to country (Hill 60; public art)

¹ <http://www.sandon-point.org.au/content/about-sandon-point.html>. Accessed 29 Nov 2010

² <http://www.jumbulla.com.au/?/community/news>. Accessed 29 Nov 2010

1.3 Contextual Essay - Settlement

1.3.1 Theme - Settling Illawarra

Though occupied by the Aboriginals for thousands of years, the ‘discovery’ of Illawarra has usually been dated from 28 April 1770 when Captain James Cook’s *Endeavour* approached the shores of Illawarra at ‘Red Point’ but the crew was unable to land.¹ George Bass and Matthew Flinders came ashore from their boat the *Tom Thumb* near Red Point on 26 March 1796. They located a lagoon they named ‘Tom Thumb’s Lagoon’ which was actually Lake Illawarra.² A fishing boat brought survivors of the *Sydney Cove* wreck to Sydney on 17 May 1797. They had traversed Illawarra whilst travelling on foot from Ninety Mile Beach in present day Victoria and found coal. George Bass was later sent to locate the coal, which he found at Coal Cliff.³

Settlement came shortly afterwards. There is some evidence that a few people had unofficially visited the Wollongong area in the early 1800s.⁴ Possibly as early as 1807, noted bushman Joe Wild was assisting bird collectors to enter the area. The first load of cedar was shipped from Illawarra in 1812.⁵

In 1815, Dr Charles Throsby was reported to have entered the area from the west guided by Aboriginals from Liverpool using an existing Aboriginal trail down Bulli mountain to gain access.⁶ He erected a stockyard and hut near what is now the corner of Harbour and Smith Streets, Wollongong.⁷ Here he had access to a freshwater lagoon.⁸

Once knowledge of Charles Throsby’s entry into the area became common, other settlers followed. On 11 November 1816, Macquarie ordered that those who had received promises of grants from him should meet at Throsby’s stockman’s hut. Late in November 1816, Surveyor-General John Oxley and surveyor James Meehan commenced measuring grants near Lake Illawarra.⁹ The earliest grants were made on 24 January 1817 to Richard Brooks, George Johnston, Andrew Allan, Robert Jenkins and David Allan, who did not reside there but ran cattle cared for by their employees.¹⁰ Settlement commenced in the Parish of Kembla west of the present day Wollongong running south to Dapto in 1817. An area of 300 acres was granted to George Molle on 11 September 1817.¹¹ Macquarie informed the Home government

¹ Jervis, ‘Illawarra’, p 65-6

² Jervis, ‘Illawarra’, p 67-9

³ Jervis, ‘Illawarra’, p 69-71

⁴ Jervis, ‘Illawarra’, p 74

⁵ Hagan & Wells, p 24

⁶ Hagan & Wells, p 20

⁷ Jervis, ‘Illawarra’, p 75

⁸ Rogers, ‘Thematic History’, p 21

⁹ Jervis, ‘Illawarra’, p 77-9

¹⁰ B T Dowd, *The First Five Land Grantees and the Grants in the Illawarra*, Illawarra Historical Society, Wollongong, 1977, p 2

¹¹ Jervis, ‘Illawarra’, p 86

on 12 December 1817 of the discovery of new country at ‘Five Islands’ known to the Aborigines as ‘Illawarra’.¹

Charles Throsby Smith arrived in the colony at the request of his uncle, Dr Charles Throsby, in 1819. Hence, it could be argued that it was the first example of ‘chain migration’ to Illawarra, a process that was a significant element of future migration to Illawarra to the present day. He obtained a grant of 300 acres in Illawarra from Macquarie and lived there from 1822.² In 1823, he was directed by Surveyor-General John Oxley to occupy land originally occupied by Charles Throsby and expended much money on it.³ Much of Wollongong is built on that grant.

After the original series of grants in Illawarra were handed out, alienation of land was based on the principle promoted by Commissioner J T Bigge of awarding large area grants to large capitalists or officials to create a plantation society to supply raw materials to Britain. The inability of the poorly resourced and staffed survey department to keep up with settlement meant that many prospective landholders were given ‘promises’ which they then used to claim land once they had scouted out the best areas.⁴ Commentators were highly favourable to the fertility of the area.

Promises of land grants permitted landowners to take up land and place their employees on it to cultivate it or use it for grazing even though their grants were not officially recorded until years later. Many of their employees were assigned convicts. Even as late as 1841, almost 12% of the male and female population consisted of assigned convicts.⁵ On 20 May 1837, 300 acres (Parish Kembla portion 55) was granted to John Stack on a promise of 1825. On 10 May 1841, a grant of 1,000 acres (Portion 7 Parish Wollongong) was issued to R Campbell and Charles Campbell on the basis of a promise to James S Spearing of 1825. It became known as Paulsgrove and then later as the Mount Keira Estate. Spearing occupied Mount Keira house on this land. A grant for another 1,000 acres (Portion 8) promised to him was also issued to the Campbells. A grant of 1,280 acres (Parish Wollongong), later known as Keelogue’s or Gundarun, promised to Gregory Blaxland in 1830 was issued to J H Plunkett on 12 April 1837. A grant of 2,000 acres issued to Jemima Jenkins (Portion 6 Parish Wollongong) on 24 September 1834 on the basis of an 1825 promise was known as Berkeley. By 25 April 1826, when he died on the property, W F Weston was occupying his West Horsley grant (Parish of Kembla). The deed was issued to his two daughters Augusta Brooks and Elizabeth Weston on 13 January 1842.⁶

Settlement had commenced in the Parish of Woonona in 1821 when settlers Cornelius O’Brien, R Lillis, P Lillis, Thomas Trotter, T Brophy and D Guiney took up land. Two large grants were promised in 1827 and 1829 in the Parish of Woonona to John Buckland and another to Miss Harriett Overington (3 March 1827) who married J S Spearing. Her deed was issued to trustees Robert and Charles Campbell.⁷

¹ *HRA*, I, volume 9, p 713

² 29/1096, Col Sec re Land, Charles Throsby Smith file, SRNSW 2/7972

³ 33/8124, Col Sec re Land, Charles Throsby Smith file, SRNSW 2/7972

⁴ Hagan & Wells, p 26

⁵ Henderson, *Early Illawarra*, p 136

⁶ Jervis, ‘Illawarra’, p 86-7

⁷ Jervis, ‘Illawarra’, p 89

The earliest occupation of land in the Parish of Calderwood dated from 1817.¹ As elsewhere, the official grant deeds came later. George Johnston's grants in the Parish of Calderwood became known as Johnston's Meadows. By 1828, George Brown who conducted one of the earliest hotels in Wollongong had received land in the Parish of Calderwood and had a man making salt on the beach near Wollongong.²

Henry Osborne received authority to settle and took up occupation of land in the Parish of Calderwood, which he named Marshall Mount after the maiden name of his wife. He built his first house 'Pumpkin Cottage' in 1829. In 1839, he commenced a two storey stone and brick building, which was widely regarded as one of the best in Illawarra. There was also a 6-acre orchard and vineyards, with ornamental plantings of English trees.³

Smaller grants catering for men of more modest capital were also measured. Surveyor E J H Knapp was surveying 10 lots at Dapto Creek in 1829 for veterans (Portions 9-10, 27-8, 31-3, 33-7, Parish of Kembla). Huts were built for them. Of those settled there only four remained on the land long enough to receive their grants.⁴ The huts were reported to have two rooms with glass windows with weatherboard fronts and the backs of slab construction. West Dapto Road bisects the grants. The only ones to receive their grants were John Robbins, James Mitchell and John McKelly.⁵ In June 1836, orders were issued to survey the 'Great Reserve' in Parish Kembla into portions of up to 100 acres for granting to small holders.⁶

The 1841 Census showed there were 468 males and 296 females in northern Illawarra, 637 males and 294 females in Wollongong, 233 males and 143 females on the small farms around Dapto whilst the Lake Illawarra area had a sizeable population of 588 males and 340 females.⁷ The 1841 census listed 659 houses in Illawarra of which 571 were of wood and 88 of brick.⁸

After the intensive surge of taking up the best land from the 1810s and 1820s, there remained less attractive land on the escarpment and plateau and in rough and heavily vegetated areas. Some of this land was taken up after the 1861 *Crown Land Alienation Act*. A total of 24 selectors were reported to have taken up 39 selections totalling 2,708 acres in the Bulli area.⁹ Early editions of parish maps show the spread of such selections along the escarpment.¹⁰

¹ Jervis, 'Illawarra', p 148

² Jervis, 'Illawarra', p 149

³ Jervis, 'Illawarra', p 149-50

⁴ Jervis, 'Illawarra', p 87

⁵ Secomb, Dapto, np

⁶ Jervis, 'Illawarra', p 87

⁷ K & T Henderson, *Early Illawarra - People, houses, life*, History Project Inc, Canberra, 1983, p 19, 24

⁸ Jervis, 'Illawarra', p 273

⁹ Bayley, *Bulli*, p 30

¹⁰ Parish Maps, County Camden, Parish Calderwood, 1892; Cordeaux, 1885; Wonona/Woonona, 1887; County Cumberland, Parish Southend, 1903

Secondary themes

Leading white European settlers to the Five Islands District
(Throsby's track)

Occupying large grants (Marshall Mount)

Using assigned convict labour

Clearing land

Finding transport routes down the escarpment

Experimenting with crops

1.3.2 Theme - Establishing a regional centre at Wollongong

The establishment of a garrison on 10 July 1826 under Captain Bishop at Wollongong as the local administrative centre was the foundation of Wollongong emerging as the regional centre.¹ Originally, the garrison was located at Red Point near Port Kembla but later moved. In 1826, Surveyor-General John Oxley reported that land had been set aside for a town at Wollongong. An order was issued in 1829 for a survey of the natural features as the prelude to laying out a town.² Surveyor E J H Knapp was sent to Illawarra to measure land for veterans and to measure land for a township at Wollongong.³

The nucleus of a settlement was emerging. In 1827, permission was given to a shoemaker to erect a hut on the beach but he left when C T Smith blocked access to the water supply. The completion of the military barracks in 1830 served to enhance the regional role of the town even though the barracks was only occupied briefly before being taken over in 1832 by the mounted police.⁴ Charles Throsby Smith built a brick bond store about 1829, believed to be the first commercial building in Illawarra and a distribution point for supplies across the district. It later became the Black Swan Hotel and Brighton Hotel.⁵ George Brown erected an inn in 1830 on part of Edward Bourke's grant. Instructions were issued on 28 June 1833 to survey an acre for shipbuilder John Cunningham for a shipyard on the harbour where he built a cottage and commenced shipbuilding.⁶

Surveyor Elliott sent in his plan of the town of Wollongong on 2 May 1833. Governor Gipps approved it on 11 November 1834 and sites for public buildings would be laid out.⁷ A contract for a courthouse was approved in 1834.¹ A small area

¹ Hagan & Wells, p 31

² Jervis, 'Illawarra', p 100-1

³ Jervis, 'Illawarra', p 84

⁴ Jervis, 'Illawarra', p 103-4

⁵ M Hutton, Conservation Study for Belmore Basin Conservation Area, Wollongong, NSW, June 1997, For Wollongong City Council, p 74

⁶ Jervis, 'Illawarra', p 103

⁷ Jervis, 'Illawarra', p 101-2

at the eastern end of Crown Street was in use as a Catholic cemetery, where burials appear to have already commenced.² The town was set up on government land along Crown Street and bounded by Harbour, Stewart and Church Streets.³ Nearby private grants were absorbed into the town layout. On 20 December 1835, Charles Throsby Smith, of Wollongong, received his grant of 300 acres called 'Bustle Farm'.⁴ Wollongong was extended onto his land. On 8 January 1840, Edward Bourke was granted 40 acres (Portion 12) and the town was also partially built on this.⁵

Meanwhile the budding town grew. In 1838, the post office shifted from the magistrate's office to E Palmer's store. Mr Mackie established a brewery about 1838. A steam mill owned by Palmer commenced operation in July 1840. Previously, a water mill and windmill had ground grain. In 1841, there were two inns - the Governor Bourke and the Wollongong.⁶

The 1840s depression caused a marked decline in the town, which had been fuelled as much by speculative investment in land as by any realistic assessment of its prospects. Many houses were deserted.⁷ G C Mundy estimated the town had 120 houses and 500-600 people in 1849. In 1855, the town consisted of a single main street with scattered development on side streets. The brick National School (on the site of the later Town Hall) was a notable building.⁸ A water supply was set up from a pond or lagoon with a trough for cattle on the market square in 1858.⁹

Public buildings were constructed to serve a wider district as well as the town. On 1 February 1858, the first sitting of magistrates was held in the new courthouse in Cliff Street facing Wollongong Harbour. Contractor McBeath gained the contract to build a new gaol beside the courthouse in April 1859. A new School of Arts in Smith Street erected by George Osborne was completed in May 1861. The telegraph line to Sydney commenced operation from a temporary station in Market Street in August 1862.¹⁰ A new Public School building was completed on the Wollongong Public School site in 1884. A new courthouse was built for £12,000 in 1885 in Market Street. A Town Hall was completed on the site of the former National School in 1887.¹¹

Commercial functions and facilities were enhanced as the town grew in importance. A Savings Bank was operating by 1856. A branch of the Commercial Bank opened in March 1859.¹² The existing agency of the English Scottish and Australian Bank was elevated to branch status in July 1859.¹³ The Commercial Banking Co completed a large stone building costing £4,000 in 1879.¹⁴

¹ Jervis, 'Illawarra', p 104

² Jervis, 'Illawarra', p 100

³ Rogers, 'Thematic History', p 23

⁴ Grants, volume 43 no 20, LPMA

⁵ Jervis, 'Illawarra', p 85

⁶ Jervis, 'Illawarra', p 104-5

⁷ Hagan & Wells, p 36

⁸ Jervis, 'Illawarra', p 106-7

⁹ Jervis, 'Illawarra', p 130

¹⁰ Jervis, 'Illawarra', p 130-1

¹¹ Jervis, 'Illawarra', p 133

¹² Jervis, 'Illawarra', p 130

¹³ Jervis, 'Illawarra', p 131

¹⁴ Jervis, 'Illawarra', p 133

Leisure activities were not neglected. On 13 July 1861, the Keira theatre opened with 'Ravens of Orleans' with an audience of 200.¹ The second Agricultural and Horticultural Society was formed in 1882 and a pavilion was erected in 1884.²

Originally, the harbour had tended to be the focus for administrative activities but as Crown and Market Streets grew in importance those functions began to be concentrated there. The opening of the railway station further west caused the commercial centre to shift towards it away from the ocean end of Crown Street towards the west. Landowners also took advantage of the opportunity to sell.

For example, on 10 November 1888, Kenny's Estate First Subdivision facing Atchison Street was offered at auction.³ It was followed on 13 October 1889 by a clearance sale of Kenny's Estate lots facing Atchison and Kenny Streets.⁴

Secondary themes

Establishing administrative services (Former Wollongong Courthouse and former Customs House, Cliff Road)

Creating a working harbour (Wollongong Harbour)

Using convict labour

Setting up shops and services (Brighton Hotel site)

1.3.3 Theme - Subdividing the large rural estates

Rural industry in Illawarra went through three phases. The initial phase was grazing, largely of cattle due to the dampness of the climate though J S Spearing of Paulsgrove had 750 sheep on his property in 1832. In the 1830s and 1840s, Illawarra became an agricultural area producing market garden and grain crops such as wheat, maize and potatoes. From the 1840s onwards, dairying increased in importance.⁵

The drought and rust outbreaks of the 1860s were major factors influencing farmers to get out of wheat growing and into dairying. From the 1840s, clover, mainly white clover, was introduced as feed for dairy cattle, and native trefoil was also introduced.⁶

Transportation of convicts ceased in 1840 so landholders no longer had access to a supply of cheap labour to clear their properties. Clearing leases were brought into play to have land cleared relatively cheaply. Thus from the 1840s onwards, large grants were subdivided for sale to smaller farmers and larger owners also used clearing leases.⁷ For example, a grant of 2,000 acres was issued to Andrew Lang and Gerard

¹ Jervis, 'Illawarra', p 131

² Jervis, 'Illawarra', p 133

³ Wollongong Subdivision Plans, ML ZTP: W32/65

⁴ Wollongong Subdivision Plans, ML ZTP: W32/41

⁵ Jervis, 'Illawarra', p 274-6

⁶ Jervis, 'Illawarra', p 276-7

⁷ Jervis, 'Illawarra', p 278

Gerard on 3 March 1840 on the basis of a promise of 1829 to J D Wylie and was known as Kembla Grange. On 26 May 1840, Lang subdivided part of the Kembla Grange grant into 34 farms of 10 to 20 acres.¹ From then onwards, the high concentration of convicts in the population declined as free immigrants entered the district. However, Dapto remained as an area with a large population of Australian born and with a higher percentage of Roman Catholics in the population of smallholders.²

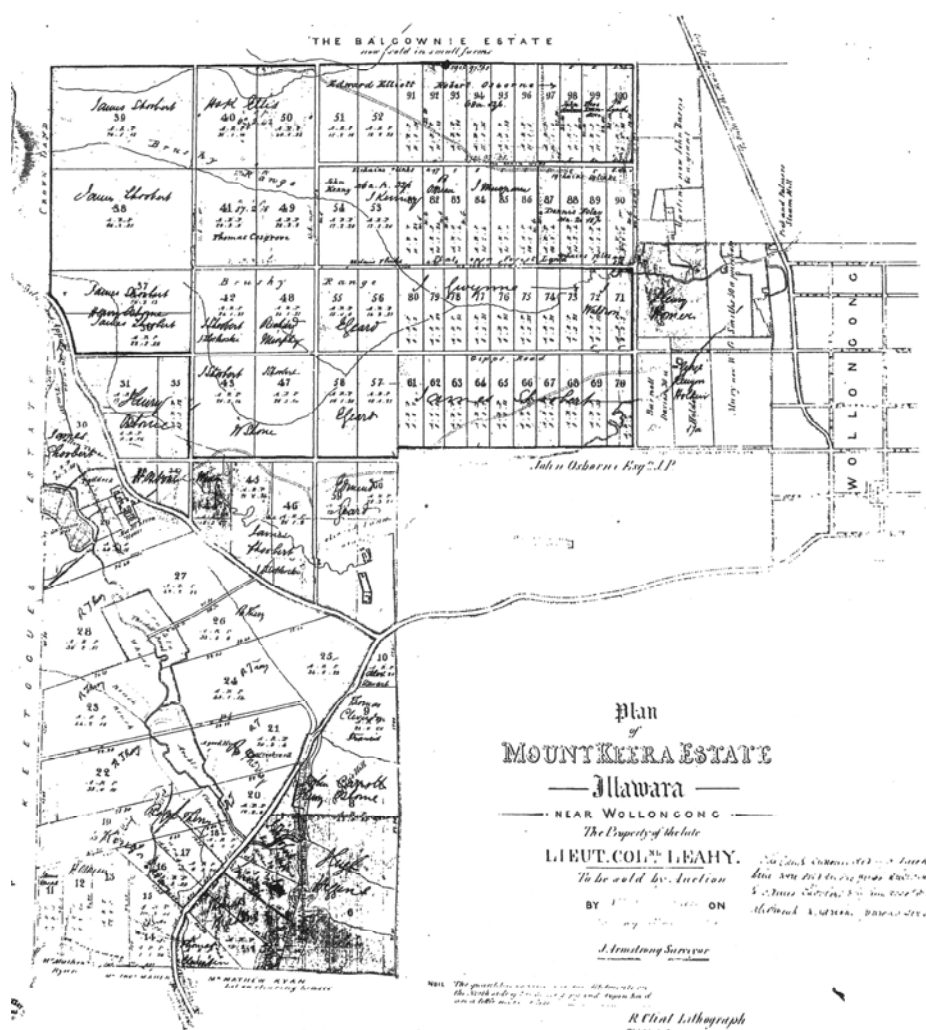


Figure 3 The ‘Mount Keera’ subdivision was an example of how landowners cut up their land into smaller parcels for sale or lease. Source: Armstrong, Plan of Mount Keera Estate, Illawarra near Wollongong, ML Map M2/811.31/1842/1

¹ Jervis, ‘Illawarra’, p 88

² Hagan & Wells, p 32

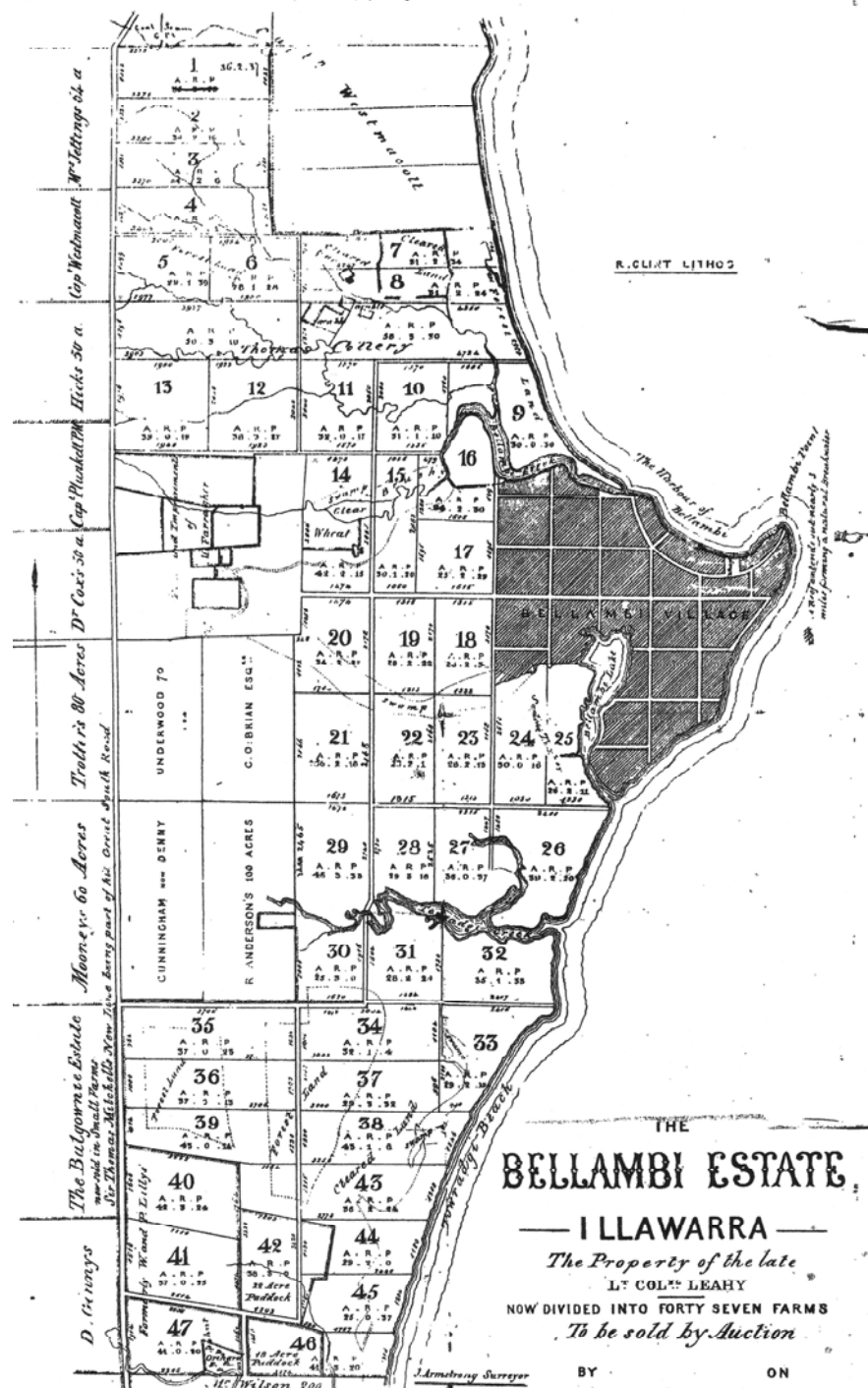


Figure 4 The 1842 subdivision of the Bellambi Estate. Source: County Camden Subdivision Plans, ML, ZCP: C1/139

Secondary themes

Clearing land

Farming grains and vegetables

Milling grain

1.3.4 Theme - Developing a dairy industry

Dairying was the mainstay of small farmers but it took time to take hold. In 1879, J and T Wilson from Victoria opened a cheese factory in Brown's old mill at Dapto but butter proved to be more profitable for the farmers. Factors which promoted the success of dairying included the introduction of refrigeration using the Mort-Nicolle system; the use of the factory system to manufacture butter; the introduction of the cream separator; the formation of co-operative societies to market and then manufacture dairy products; and lastly the extension of the railway to Illawarra making access to market much easier.¹

In 1881, farmers at Wollongong and elsewhere formed the South Coast and West Camden Co-operative Society to market dairy produce from the South Coast free of commercial agents. It became the Farmers Co-operative Society in 1898. When it foundered in 1900, the Coastal Farmers Co-operative Company took over.²

After the success of the Kiama Pioneer butter factory, other farmers formed similar co-operatives. There was one at Unanderra in 1887 and another at Dapto in 1888. In 1898, they combined to create the Illawarra Central Dairy Factory based at Albion Park and the smaller factories closed. Wollongong and Kiama dairy farmers formed the Dairy Farmers Co-operative Milk Company in 1900 to sell fresh milk.³ After World War One, dairy production remained stable but the number of farms declined as holdings were amalgamated into larger more workable units.⁴

Men such as Henry Osborne of Marshall Mount and Evan Evans of Penrose used imported cattle to improve the quality of dairy herds. Jersey cows were popular for their rich milk production. The development of the Illawarra Shorthorn breed of cattle was a major advance in the quality of dairy herds.⁵

Dairy farming was based on the use of unpaid family labour to obtain a marginal return. Government control of production conditions became ever stricter. In 1901, the *Dairies Supervision Act* placed strict standards on hygiene and required dairies to be registered as well as specifying standards for buildings. Government support in the twentieth century ensured that butter production continued. In 1925, the Federal Nationalist-Country Party government placed a basic price on butter with the Paterson scheme excluding foreign butter and levying consumers to fund exports.⁶ A joint Federal-State scheme replaced it in 1934. When the Lang Labor government repealed the failed Bavin government's 1929 Metropolitan Milk Act with a new Milk Act in 1931, it set up a milk marketing scheme for fresh milk sent to Sydney and established the Milk Board.⁷

¹ Jervis, 'Illawarra', p 279

² Hagan & Wells, p 41

³ Hagan & Wells, p 41

⁴ Hagan & Wells, p 55

⁵ HLA- Envirosciences Pty Ltd, Non-Indigenous Heritage Study West Dapto Release Area, New South Wales, Feb 2006, For Wollongong City Council, p 15

⁶ A Cousins, *Garden of New South Wales*, p 127-9

⁷ Hagan & Wells, p 53

In the early days, production of milk products such as butter and cheese was a farm-based enterprise, needing specialised buildings on the farm such as cool cream rooms and places to store the finished product until it could be sent to market. In later years once the co-operatives were in full swing, another set of buildings were needed. In the Milk Board era, strict sanitary rules controlling buildings on the farm were major influences on the layout and construction of dairy farms. Hence, a stronger emphasis was placed on concrete buildings such as milking sheds and silos able to withstand constant washing down without harbouring grime. Out in the paddocks, swamps were drained or filled, unwanted trees were cut down or ringbarked and grasses that promoted milk production were planted, all divided by fences of post and rail and later of steel.

The layout of such farms can be seen in a plan of William Harris' 'Stream Hill' property in 1898.

Secondary themes

Raising dairy cattle

Breeding improved dairy cattle

Improving pastures

Operating farms as dairy complexes (Marshall Mount; Horsley, Bong Bong Road, West Dapto)

Forming co-operative societies

Processing dairy products

Creating a dairying landscape

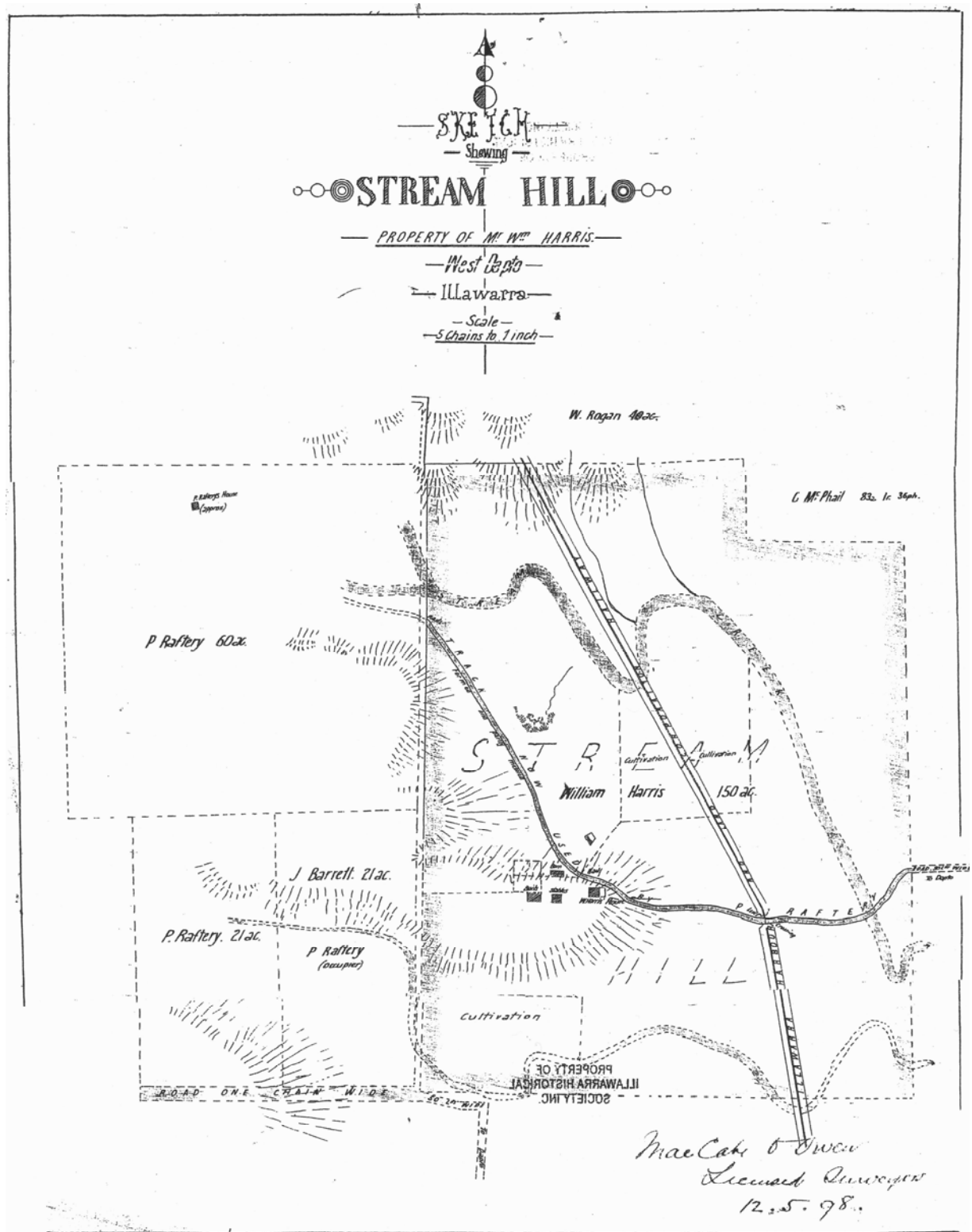


Figure 5 The 'Stream Hill' property owned by William Harris mapped by surveyors MacCabe and Owen in May 1898 showed the outbuildings including the cow bails. Source: Illawarra Historical Society Map collection

1.3.5 Theme - Opening coal mines on the escarpment

Good quality easily worked coking coal was available in seams on the coast or accessible by shaft or adit down the escarpment close to water transport. In many places, coal seams were exposed on the escarpment. The Upper seams were the Bulli, Bellambi and Wongawilli seams. These had the best coal and were the seams mostly worked particularly the Bulli and Wongawilli seams. They were also mined at other places such as Appin, Lithgow and the Burragorang valley. The Lower seams were not normally mined.

Due to its gassy nature, there were technical problems in mining the seams, inspiring solutions such as venting or using the gas released from the seams. In the most extreme cases, a spark or flame caused explosions. Additionally, there were often problems with shipping due to the open nature of the coast. Though known since 1797, there was little opportunity to develop the seams due to the monopoly the Australian Agricultural Company held on coal production for its Newcastle mines.

In 1848, the Australian Agricultural Company monopoly was ended by parliament so James Shoober took the opportunity to open a small mine at Mount Keira in 1849.¹ On 27 August 1849, the first load of coal from his mine opened on Portion 114, Parish of Woonona was produced at Mount Keira but production was spasmodic. A large procession led by a brass band accompanied the ox carts down to the jetty where the coal was loaded.²

Thomas Hale opened another mine at Bellambi, which was shipping coal on 17 December 1857. A jetty was being built at Bellambi and a tramway was laid for the mine to the Bulli Road. Construction of a tramway from Hale's mine to Bellambi commenced on 8 August 1858. A relatively large ship, the *Tiger* entered Bellambi harbour for the first time in 1858 to load coal. The Bellambi jetty was enlarged by seventy feet to a total length of 570 feet in 1859.³

Opening of mines along the escarpment coupled with construction of inclined ways to the plain linked to tramways to the shipping points and jetties created a distinctive landscape. The tramways running east-west to the coast bisecting the main road and all communications which ran north-south were a dominant feature.⁴ In March 1859, E O Moriarty, Engineer-in-Chief of the Harbours and Rivers Branch of the NSW Department of Public Works drew a sketch plan to illustrate a proposal to provide a harbour at Bulli, which showed the coal pits in the district.⁵

The first load of coal was delivered to Wollongong Harbour from the mine at Mount Pleasant operated by Lahiff and Fawcett on land owned by Plunkett in July 1861. By 1862, their interest had been transferred to James and William Byrnes when the Illawarra Coal Company was formed. A Bill to allow construction of the tramway from Mount Pleasant to Wollongong Harbour was presented in Parliament in

¹ Hagan & Wells, p 35

² M Hutton, Conservation Study for Belmore Basin Conservation Area, Wollongong, NSW, June 1997, For Wollongong City Council, p 10

³ Jervis, 'Illawarra', p 284-7

⁴ Rogers, 'Thematic History', p 38

⁵ Lds&PW59/1030, SRNSW 5/3599

September 1862. By December 1862, work had advanced enough to send loaded skips to the wharf. By 1871, coal from Illawarra was being shipped to the San Francisco Rolling Mill Co and to Shanghai.¹



Figure 6 E O Moriarty's sketch of March 1859 showing the coal pits operating.
Source: Lds&PW59/1030, SRNSW 5/3599

In November 1863, the Bellambi and Woonona Coal Mines were advertised for sale in the bankrupt estate of Thomas Hale and John McMullen & Co. The mine was on Hugh Dixon's grant (Portion 133, Parish of Woonona) with a 21-year lease dated from 1 October 1858. There were also fifteen miners' cottages let at 10 shillings per week on the land.² In 1888, work commenced on the Woonona Old Tunnel originally opened by Thomas Hale. A new jetty was completed in 1889 and a tramway three miles long was opened by a new company called the Bellambi Coal Co, which leased 779 acres from the Osborne Estate.³

The North Bulli Coal and Iron Company commenced work in 1876 with a tunnel near Bulli but it was some years before the mine was in full operation.⁴ In 1879, there were four mines including two at Mount Keira, one at Bulli and one at Coalcliff. A total of 754 men were employed as miners in 1880, consisting of 331 at Bulli, 138 at Coalcliff, 136 at Mt Keira and 136 at Mount Pleasant.⁵

¹ Jervis, 'Illawarra', p 291

² Jervis, 'Illawarra', p 290: RPA 3015 shows that Thomas Hale had purchased most of these lands and only sold them after his bankruptcy.

³ Jervis, 'Illawarra', p 295

⁴ Jervis, 'Illawarra', p 292

⁵ Jervis, 'Illawarra', p 293

Booming conditions from the 1870s to the 1890s and strong demand for coal ensured the opening of a number of collieries in Illawarra.¹ By the 1880s and 1890s, the district was split just south of Wollongong. To the north, coal mining was the major economic activity but not the only one. To the south it remained dairying country with some coal mining.²

The Mount Kembla Coal and Oil Company had built a jetty at Port Kembla in 1883 and in 1887 the Southern Oil Company had built another. The greater depth alongside these jetties allowed larger vessels to load coal and effectively ended Wollongong's role as a major coal export. In 1915 the NSW Department of Public Works built a coal jetty at Port Kembla known as No 1 Jetty.

Over-speculation in new mines coupled with over-production elsewhere in Australia and the world meant an oversupply of coal drove prices and workers' wages down. By the 1890s, when combined with the general economic depression the situation had a severe impact on workers' living conditions.³

Mine disasters included two of Australia's worst – the methane explosions at the Bulli colliery in 1887 and at Mount Kembla in 1902.⁴ The explosion at Bulli coalmine on 23 March 1887 killed 81. A memorial was erected.⁵ The Mount Kembla explosion of 31 July 1902 killed 94 miners and two rescuers. Until the Victorian bushfires of 2009, it was greatest loss of life in an Australian peacetime disaster.

Coalmines began to consolidate operations in the early 1900s by closing smaller pits and jetties and shifting to rail transport of coal to Port Kembla. Electric coal cutting machines were introduced at South Bulli in 1903 enabling further cost cutting.⁶ BHP commenced using mechanical coal cutters at its Wongawilli and Mount Keira mines in 1938.⁷ Though technological advances such as these made mines more efficient, some mines such as Mount Kembla were still using pit ponies as late as the 1950s and building stabling for them.

Though there was less demand for labour, conditions for miners improved as much from the demands of a unionised workforce as from legislative requirements. In August 1918, the first mine bathhouse allowing miners to clean themselves before leaving for home was established at Coalcliff.⁸ A Mines Rescue station was set up at Princes Highway, Bellambi in 1927.⁹

New mines were developed at Avondale and Mount Kembla-Nebo after World War Two.¹⁰ The major demand for coal was from the steelworks plus the need for hard coking coal from Japan.¹¹ In 1946 BHP commenced its Nebo colliery.¹ By 1947, the

¹ Hagan & Wells, p 43

² Hagan & Wells, p 45-6

³ Hagan & Wells, p 49

⁴ Hagan & Wells, p 51

⁵ Bayley, *Bulli*, p 12-14

⁶ Rogers, 'Thematic History', p 49

⁷ Hagan & Wells, p 68

⁸ Bayley, *Bulli*, p 21

⁹ Bayley, *Bulli*, p 20

¹⁰ Secomb, Dapto, np

¹¹ Rogers, 'Thematic History', p 57

Huntley colliery was operating to supply Tallawarra power station.² By the 1970s, major companies such as Conzinc Riotinto, Shell and Clutha were concentrating on coal exports.³

The coalescing of the separate mining villages into a single conurbation focussed on Wollongong affected the lifestyles and social character of the former mining villages. Once coal in the eastern parts of leases was mined out, pitheads shifted west of the escarpment, so miners were no longer tied to the pithead, whilst the increasing ownership of cars enabled them to be more residentially mobile.⁴ New mines opened at Appin and the Burratorang valley and in the 1970s at Cordeaux, Tower and West Cliff.

The background and development of a sample of coalmines are dealt with below.

1.3.5.1 Mount Keira Colliery

James Shoobert opened a small mine at Mount Keira in 1848 into what was later known as No 3 seam.⁵ On 27 August 1849, the first load of coal from his mine (Portion 114, Parish of Woonona) was produced at Mount Keira but production was spasmodic.⁶ The first load of coal was taken by ox cart to Wollongong Harbour in a grand procession with a band in 1849. In 1850, a second mine named the Albert Mine was opened to the seam.⁷

The property was sold to Henry Osborne in 1856. Henry Osborne and William Robson opened up the No 1 seam higher up the escarpment in 1857 and it became known as the Osborne Wallsend (Mt Keira) Colliery.⁸ The Osborne Wallsend Coal Mining Co was formed in 1858 and was later established by a deed of settlement in July 1861.⁹ Robson and Osborne decided to build a tramway to shift coal to Wollongong Harbour. William Robson began a local campaign to pressure the government to undertake improvements in the port at Wollongong.¹⁰ On 11 November 1859, an incline initially served by skips commenced taking coal to depot.¹¹ In May 1861 the Mount Keira Tramway served by horse-drawn trucks opened giving better access to Wollongong Harbour.¹² As result of pressure and lobbying, work commenced on the construction of a basin extension to Wollongong Harbour, which was opened by the Governor's wife naming it Belmore Basin, which

¹ Hagan & Wells, p 68

² Secomb, Dapto, np

³ Hagan & Wells, p 75

⁴ Rogers, 'Thematic History', p 60

⁵ G Mould, 'A Brief History of the Mount Keira Tramline', *Illawarra Historical Society Newsletter*, Nov-Dec 2000, p 84

⁶ Jervis, 'Illawarra', p 284

⁷ G Mould, 'Brief History of the Mount Keira Tramline', p 84

⁸ OHM Consultants, Strategic Management Plan for Historic Coal Mining Sites of the Illawarra, 2006, For Wollongong City Council and Dept of Primary Industries, Mineral Resources Division, Kemira listing sheet

⁹ Jervis, 'Illawarra', p 286

¹⁰ Hagan & Wells, p 38

¹¹ G Mould, 'Brief History of the Mount Keira Tramline', p 86

¹² G Mould, 'Brief History of the Mount Keira Tramline', p 88

opened with three coal staiths on 6 October 1868.

The Mount Keira mine began to haul coal to port by locomotive in 1878 replacing horse drawn skips.¹ The Mount Keira Mine was offered for sale in 1888.² In 1899, Ebenezer Vickery and Sons bought the Osborne Wallsend Mine.³

1.3.5.2 Coalcliff Colliery

After the seam at Coal Cliff was mined in a small way, the property was bought by a consortium led by Alexander Stuart, which formed the Coal Cliff Mining Company in 1877. Thomas Hale, the original owner of Bellambi Colliery developed their colliery. An ocean jetty 500 feet long was built. A rough pathway down the cliff face gave access for miners to the adit.⁴

A timber slide was built in April 1877 providing access to the mine.⁵ The first shipment of coal from the jetty plus an official opening occurred on 11 January 1878.⁶

A ventilation adit was added and another ventilation shaft was built to the level of the present Lawrence Hargrave Drive. In 1899 that shaft collapsed and a steam driven ventilation fan was provided. Problems with geology and shipping by sea made the mine a poor financial proposition. In 1890, the partners formed the Coal Cliff Coal and Land Company Ltd to take over the colliery.⁷

1.3.5.3 Mount Kembla Mine

A company was formed to mine coal at Mount Kembla in 1878 near the old Pioneer Kerosene Works, which operated the first shale oil works in Australia until 1877. Building of a railway to Port Kembla plus a jetty commenced in 1880. Opening the seam began in March 1882.⁸ A new furnace shaft and chimney was built in 1887 with a second furnace shaft added in 1891.⁹

A major mine disaster occurred at this mine on 31 July 1902 when an explosion and

¹ G Mould, 'Brief History of the Mount Keira Tramline', p 89

² Jervis, 'Illawarra', p 295

³ OHM Consultants, Strategic Management Plan for Historic Coal Mining Sites of the Illawarra, 2006, For Wollongong City Council and Dept of Primary Industries, Mineral Resources Division, Kemira listing sheet

⁴ OHM Consultants, Strategic Management Plan for Historic Coal Mining Sites of the Illawarra, 2006, For Wollongong City Council and Dept of Primary Industries, Mineral Resources Division, Coalcliff listing sheet

⁵ Jervis, 'Illawarra', p 292

⁶ Jervis, 'Illawarra', p 292

⁷ OHM Consultants, Strategic Management Plan for Historic Coal Mining Sites of the Illawarra, 2006, For Wollongong City Council and Dept of Primary Industries, Mineral Resources Division, Coalcliff listing sheet

⁸ Jervis, 'Illawarra', p 294

⁹ OHM Consultants, Strategic Management Plan for Historic Coal Mining Sites of the Illawarra, 2006, For Wollongong City Council and Dept of Primary Industries, Mineral Resources Division, Mount Kembla listing sheet

gas fumes killed 94 miners and two rescuers. Until the 2009 Victorian bushfires, it was the worst peacetime disaster in Australia with the greatest loss of life. It remains the greatest workplace disaster. The impact on the community was great and the event is commemorated annually. A small museum has been set up at Mount Kembla. The Mount Kembla Collieries Ltd bought the mine in 1913. On 1 July 1946, Australian Iron and Steel bought the colliery and the railway line. The mine ceased operating in 1970.¹

1.3.5.4 Wongawilli

In 1913, Alexander Lang acquired Mineral Lease (Coal & Shale) No 321 for MP6 registered in the Department of Mines on 22 December 1913 but he does not appear to have had enough capital to fully utilise the mine. On 18 December 1916, Wongawilli Colliery was established by G & C Hoskins Iron & Steel to supply coking coal for its furnaces.² Hoskins enlargement of the mine ensured the return of men to the Dapto area that had left after the smelter shut down or who had gone to war.³ By April 1918, Hoskins Iron and Steel was sending 1,600 tons of coke per month to Lithgow from its coke ovens at Wongawilli.⁴

During the 1920s and 1930s, many miners established homes on Bankbook Hill near the mine that were later shifted to Wongawilli. About 20 substandard houses were reported to be in Wongawilli by the 1930s.⁵ A subdivision plan of 1936 of lots along Wongawilli Road near the mine showed cottages on a number of lots being sold by Australian Iron and Steel.⁶

Secondary themes

Finding coal on the escarpment (Coalcliff Cliff mine)

Digging coal from easily accessed places on the escarpment

Transporting coal to coastal jetties by road (Route of first load of coal from Mount Keira mine)

Transporting coal to coastal jetties by private tramway or railway (Bulli tramway bridge; Mount Pleasant and Mount Keira tramways)

Shipping coal to market by sea

¹ OHM Consultants, Strategic Management Plan for Historic Coal Mining Sites of the Illawarra, 2006, For Wollongong City Council and Dept of Primary Industries, Mineral Resources Division, Mount Kembla listing sheet

² OHM Consultants, Strategic Management Plan for Historic Coal Mining Sites of the Illawarra, 2006, For Wollongong City Council and Dept of Primary Industries, Mineral Resources Division, Wongawilli Colliery listing sheet

³ Secomb, Dapto, np

⁴ Hagan & Wells, p 59

⁵ Secomb, Dapto, np

⁶ DP 18020

Accommodating miners and their families (Miners' cottages, 438-446, 443-5, 449, 453-5 Lawrence Hargrave Drive, Scarborough; Kembla Heights Heritage Conservation Area)

Rescuing miners

Memorialising mine disasters (Mount Kembla mine memorial, Cemetery, Cordeaux Road, Mount Kembla)

Improving mine safety

Moving coal mining west of the escarpment

1.3.6 The emergence of urban settlements and villages

Wollongong was the first urban centre in the district and remains as the major centre to the present day. For much of the nineteenth century, it was the only urban centre but small centres emerged at Brownsville (later Dapto), and Woonona/Bulli by the 1870s. The establishment of coalmines fostered a number of small villages at each pithead housing their employees across the northern parts of the area so that a network of small villages focussed on coalmines was evident by 1900. Since miners needed to live near the pithead due to the primitive state of transport, the coalmines fostered the establishment of villages or urban settlements on the escarpment away from the coastal plain.¹ To the south, smaller centres such as Dapto catered for the rural community in that area. By the 1890s, the entry of the railway meant that access to Sydney was improved and a string of villages focussed on the tourist trade began to emerge.

Population of Wollongong Urban Centres 1871 to 1901

Town or Village	1871	1881	1891	1901	Habitations 1901
Bulli & Woonona	-	1628	2578	2720	
Illawarra Central (municipality)	2392	2550	3247	4664	967
Illawarra North (municipality)	763	1011	2515	3190	642
Wollongong (municipality)	1297	1635	3041	3545	680

Source: Census of New South Wales, 1901

¹ Illawarra Escarpment Heritage Assessment 2007, Mayne-Wilson & Associates and Heritage Futures in association with Godden Mackay Logan, For Wollongong City Council, Part II – Thematic Essay – Theme 2, p 2

The following two sections (1.3.6.1, 1.3.6.2 and 1.3.6.3) outline basic information about the establishment of the different urban centres and villages. They are not intended as comprehensive histories of those settlements.

1.3.6.1 Theme - Establishing rural centres

Dapto

Dapto emerged as a rural centre catering for surrounding farms. George Brown transferred an existing licence for the Ship Inn in 1834 and a small settlement developed near his hotel. After being burned down in 1843, a new hotel, the Illawarra Hotel, replaced it. The hotel is located at what is now known as Brownsville, close to Mullet Creek where the original core of settlement developed. A Roman Catholic cemetery was dedicated in 1838. A Roman Catholic school was in operation in December 1839.

It was reported in 1840 that Dapto was growing rapidly. It had George Brown's steam engine in full operation and a flourmill erected by Mr Bourne was expected to start in 1841. The Church of England that was almost complete was licensed for service in February 1845. A Wesleyan chapel opened in November 1848 and was shifted to a new site where it reopened in October 1861.¹

By 1850, when Brown died, the private town of Dapto (later Brownsville) was established with some semblance of an ordered layout.² A Presbyterian school was complete in 1851.³ By 1856, there were about half a dozen houses, a post office, a school at some distance plus the hotel and store at Dapto.⁴ By 1871, Dapto included the hotel conducted by that time by George Osborne, the mill, the school and the Central Illawarra Municipal Council chambers plus a large store owned by K McKenzie, which included the post office.⁵ A public school operated briefly in 1852 but was not permanently established until August 1875.⁶

The arrival of the railway in the 1880s made the town shift from its original older site near Mullet Creek (later known as Brownsville) to a new location next to the platform, which took the name of Dapto.⁷ Brown's old hotel known as the Lake Illawarra continued to trade until September 1937 when approval was granted to transfer its licence.⁸ A butter factory established in 1887 by Mr Harvey of the Country Milk Company would operate from Brown's old mill.⁹

¹ W G McDonald, *Nineteenth-Century Dapto*, Illawarra Historical Society, Wollongong, 1976, p 44-6; Jervis, 'Illawarra', p 150-2

² Secomb, Dapto, np

³ Jervis, 'Illawarra', p 151

⁴ Jervis, 'Illawarra', p 152; Note that the Dapto post office file at National Archives of Australia goes back to 1864.

⁵ Jervis, 'Illawarra', p 152

⁶ NSW – Dept of School Education, *Government Schools of New South Wales 1848 to 1993*, Dept of School Education, 1993, Sydney, p 59

⁷ W G McDonald, *Nineteenth-Century Dapto*, p 67

⁸ Lake Illawarra Hotel Card, Licences Reduction Board, Hotel Cards, District of Wollondilly, SRNSW 3/7886

⁹ Jervis, 'Illawarra', p 153

The subdivision of the Marshall Mount Estate extending from Cleveland Street to Unarra Street west of the station and Byamee to Werowi Street east of the station in June 1890 ensured that population moved to the railway station and enabled a viable community to emerge. The late 1890s was a boom period in Dapto. Over 400 men were employed at the smelting works but its closure in 1905 turned Dapto back into a quiet rural village.¹ After the post office had shifted from various locations, the government erected an official post office on Bong Bong Road in 1904.

Dapto boomed again from the 1950s onwards as many new subdivisions were opened up in the vicinity. Dapto received numerous British migrants settled in a Commonwealth Housing area on Yalunga Street colloquially known as ‘Pommy Hill’ in the 1950s.²

Sherbrooke

A settlement developed where the road from Georges River met the road from Appin at the top of Bulli Mountain. It was known originally as Bulli Mountain and Upper Bulli and was named Sherbrooke in 1883.³ A public school opened as Bulli Mountain in May 1870.⁴ The public school was replaced by a stone building on 21 September 1883.⁵

William Brown had selected land in 1873 he named ‘Ferndale’ and set up a renowned orchard. In May 1878, Knight set up a sawmill and erected a dam to serve his steam engine. Sherbrooke post office operated from 1882 to 1904. A Church of England opened in May 1882.⁶ The area was a renowned orchard centre for some years.

Workers constructing Cataract Dam went to ‘Cataract City’ where a complete commercial centre with churches operated down river from Sherbrooke. A tram ran from Gallagher’s quarry at Sherbrooke seven miles to the dam wall.⁷ Sherbrooke village was resumed in 1903 since it was in the catchment area for Cataract Dam. All buildings such as the church were removed except the stone schoolhouse. The former schoolhouse was burnt out in 1968 and its shell was moved.⁸

Secondary themes

Providing retail services

Orcharding

Building up community facilities (Former West Dapto Public School, Sheaffes Road, West Dapto)

¹ Secomb, Dapto, np

² Secomb, Dapto, np

³ Bayley, *Bulli*, p 41

⁴ NSW – Dept of School Education, *Government Schools of New South Wales 1848 to 1993*, Dept of School Education, 1993, Sydney, p 129

⁵ Bayley, *Bulli*, p 41

⁶ Bayley, *Bulli*, p 41

⁷ Bayley, *Bulli*, p 56-7

⁸ A Gibbs & C Warne, *Wollongong: A Pictorial History*, Kingsclear, 1995, p 52

Servicing the population (Former Lake Illawarra Hotel, Dapto)

1.3.6.2 Theme - Establishing mining villages

Many of Wollongong's suburbs were originally created as villages associated with nearby coalmines. A sample of these is discussed below. It is not a comprehensive listing. Others such as Balgownie, Wongawilli, Kembla Heights, etc have not been discussed.

Bulli

Bulli is located on grants made to Cornelius O'Brien, William Bowman and George Tate. The only house in 1825 was that of Cornelius O'Brien but by 1828, Peggy McGawley's and Gerraty Brothers had joined it. Both Bulli and Woonona were important early settlements and their history was often intertwined. From the 1840s onwards, land was sold at Bulli. The Bulli estate of 900 acres was offered for private sale in 1841. It was later subdivided and 22 lots of 25 to 165 acres were offered for sale. Captain Westmacott's residence was offered for lease in September 1844.

Robert Somerville, a local notable, erected a steam mill in 1858. Services including shops were soon in business. A Sunday school was in operation in 1861 and the Bellambi and Bulli School of Arts had been organised.¹ It was not until 21 December 1863, that the Bellambi and Bulli School of Arts opened in Gray Street, Woonona.² Cockerton and Co opened a new store in 1861.³

The coal mine opened in 1863 and it was reported that more substantial buildings were replacing the original workers' huts.⁴ In September 1864, the *Illawarra Mercury* noted how the opening of the mine had created a village at Bulli.⁵

Wesleyan Church services were held as early as 1857 and later a building was altered as a church, which opened on 27 January 1862. A stone Wesleyan Chapel erected by contractor Thackeray opened on 7 May 1865.⁶ The Bulli and Bellambi Benefit Society was formed in 1865.⁷ Bulli School opened on 7 July 1869.⁸ A post office opened at Bulli on 1 October 1869.⁹ The Presbyterian Church opened at Gray Street, Woonona on 29 September 1871 and a cemetery was set up next to it.¹⁰ The first burial in the Church of England cemetery in Park Road occurred in 1878.¹¹ A branch

¹ Jervis, 'Illawarra', p 93-4

² Bayley, *Bulli*, p 29

³ Jervis, 'Illawarra', p 94

⁴ Jervis, 'Illawarra', p 95

⁵ Bayley, *Bulli*, p 33

⁶ Bayley, *Bulli*, p 31

⁷ Bayley, *Bulli*, p 35-6

⁸ Bayley, *Bulli*, p 33

⁹ Bayley, *Bulli*, p 37

¹⁰ Bayley, *Bulli*, p 29

¹¹ Bayley, *Bulli*, p 34

of the Government Savings Bank was established at Bulli on 4 June 1877.¹ The telegraph line was extended to Bulli from Bellambi in 1877.² The E S and A Bank opened a branch in 1878.³

After closure of its mine in 1879, Woonona declined as the district centre to be supplanted by Bulli.⁴ On 11 April 1879, a postal inspector reported, 'Within the last two or three years the population of Bulli has very much increased and instead of a solitary store and public house there are now 5 public houses and 5 stores.'⁵ The village known as Robbinsville after a large landholder had emerged north of Bulli. It was also known as Newtown.⁶ It subsequently became Thirroul.

As Bulli supplanted Woonona as the centre, it acquired additional functions. A new courthouse and hotel were under construction in 1880.⁷ A police lock-up with two cells was also under construction.⁸ The courthouse opened in 1882.⁹ The *Bulli and Clifton Times* was first issued on 3 July 1886.¹⁰ A major improvement in local facilities occurred on 20 May 1893 when the Bulli Hospital built by John Myles was officially opened.¹¹

A host of new churches were also established. In July 1880, Bishop Polding blessed a new Catholic church and a school to be called St Joseph. The church was officially blessed on 11 September 1881 and the school opened in 1882.¹² The new Church of England to the design of Edmund Blacket was consecrated on 22 October 1884.¹³ On 23 August 1885, the new Primitive Wesleyan Methodist church opened. In later years it became the Bulli Workers' Club.¹⁴ A public cemetery was finally set up near Woniora Point in 1887.¹⁵ A new St Joseph's Roman Catholic Church opened on 26 August 1900. The adjacent convent was built in 1903.¹⁶

Erection of the railway platform inspired the shift of the core of the town away from 'Old Bulli' to a new location near the station. Roger and Sarah Heard erected the Bulli Railway Guest House about 1887 to coincide with the construction of the railway.¹⁷ George Croft's Hotel was the finest building erected in the area for many years, consisting of three storeys costing £4,000 and let to William Dickson for the first five years. Older hotels such as the Black Diamond closed to become a boarding house, whilst the Denmark Hotel closed in 1894 and the Star of the Sea and Railway

¹ M77/1584, Post Office File, Bulli Part 1, NAA, CRS SP32/1

² Rogers, 'Thematic History', p 42

³ Bayley, *Bulli*, p 37

⁴ Bayley, *Bulli*, p 48

⁵ Letter 2947, Post Office File, Bulli Part 1, NAA, CRS SP32/1

⁶ Jervis, 'Illawarra', p 95

⁷ Jervis, 'Illawarra', p 96

⁸ Bayley, *Bulli*, p 38

⁹ Rogers, 'Thematic History', p 42

¹⁰ Bayley, *Bulli*, p 38

¹¹ Bayley, *Bulli*, p 58

¹² Jervis, 'Illawarra', p 96

¹³ Bayley, *Bulli*, p 35

¹⁴ Bayley, *Bulli*, p 34

¹⁵ Bayley, *Bulli*, p 35

¹⁶ Bayley, *Bulli*, p 58

¹⁷ Maureen Slapp, 'Railway Guest House Bulli – Family Reminiscences', in <http://www.uow.edu.au/%7Emorgan/railwayinn.htm>, Accessed 13 May 2010

Hotel also closed.¹ The pace of development left what became 'Old Bulli' marooned away from the railway, though significant items such as the Denmark Hotel survive, as well as a very early slab miner's cottage.² In 1914, the Bulli Pass Hotel was demolished for a new two-storey brick building on a site at the corner of George and Philip Streets. By 1914, Bulli shopping centre was moving near the railway line.³

Woonona

H S Fry established the first store at Woonona in 1857. He went on to become a significant local figure. On 1 October 1859, Fry opened a post office named 'Wonona'. In the late 1860s, Woonona was the main centre of the Bulli area centred on the hilltop where the tramway from Hale's South Bulli mine crossed the road south of Gray Street.⁴

A Church of England school had been established in 1865.⁵ In 1871, a branch of the Government Bank opened.⁶ A Presbyterian Church opened on 29 September 1871.⁷ Charles Pope built a series of cottages in 1878 on the site of Popes Lane, originally known as Black's Bush after James Black, an earlier resident.⁸ A public school opened in November 1882.⁹

By 1879, when the coalmine was no longer operating, many workers had moved to Bulli.¹⁰ Woonona declined as the district centre to be supplanted by Bulli.¹¹ In any case, many services such as the courthouse and police station had been centrally located between the two centres. The subdivision and auction on 18 April 1889 of Hale's estate between Gray and Stanhope Streets east of the main road near his former mine later conducted by the Bellambi Coal Company revived Woonona.¹² It was a subdivision of parts of lots 1, 2 and 3 of the Bellambi Estate subdivided in the 1840s.¹³ Commercial activity resurged and stores opened.¹⁴ According to Bayley, 'Houses and stores sprang up on every hand'.¹⁵

The Public School commenced in a newly built building at Gray Street in February 1885.¹⁶ A brick building with two rooms for the Infants' Department was added to the

¹ Bayley, *Bulli*, p 57

² A Wood, *Tales from Our Streets: A Photographic History of Wollongong*, Author, Figtree, 1999, p 68-9; Pers comm., Meredith Hutton, 3 June 2010

³ Bayley, *Bulli*, p 70

⁴ Bayley, *Bulli*, p 29

⁵ Hagan & Wells, p 191

⁶ Bayley, *Bulli*, p 29

⁷ Jervis, 'Illawarra', p 99

⁸ Bayley, *Bulli*, p 30

⁹ NSW – Dept of School Education, *Government Schools of New South Wales 1848 to 1993*, Dept of School Education, 1993, Sydney, p 154

¹⁰ Jervis, 'Illawarra', p 100

¹¹ Bayley, *Bulli*, p 48

¹² *SMH*, 12 April 1889, p 11

¹³ Plan 149 (A), LPMA

¹⁴ The plan number is DP 2697, which suggests a plan registration date of 1891.

¹⁵ Bayley, *Bulli*, p 54

¹⁶ Bayley, *Bulli*, p 28

school in 1890.¹ A new official post office opened in 1903.² The friendly societies of the district built a hall on the main road in 1905 used jointly for many years that was later sold for a motor garage.³ During the 1900s, additional subdivisions opened up the area including Hale's, Campbell's and Ziems' estates.⁴ The first service at the newly erected Woonona Methodist Church was held on 28 May 1909.



Figure 7 Woonona village subdivision of April 1889. Source: Woonona Subdivision Plans, ML, ZTP: W34/4

¹ Bayley, *Bulli*, p 54

² Bayley, *Bulli*, p 55

³ Bayley, *Bulli*, p 54

⁴ Bayley, *Bulli*, p 55

American Creek/Mount Kembla

Four grants were made out to Henry Gordon near American Creek on 28 March 1843. Another grant of 24 acres was issued to Patrick Leahey.¹ A small settlement arose and a National School was completed there in March 1859. A Church of England church was erected in 1860.² A significant early industry was the production of oil shale, which had been discovered at American Creek on Portions 4 and 160, Parish of Kembla.³ In 1865, a retort plant had been constructed for £4,000 and commenced operation. In 1870, there were 23 retorts producing kerosene for proprietors John, Edward and Neville Graham. In 1874, it was sold to the Mount Kembla Coal and Oil Company. After working intermittently after 1876, it was finally abandoned after 1880.⁴

By then, there were proposals to mine coal from the escarpment nearby. The Mount Kembla Coal and Oil Co Ltd was established. Its railway line to Port Kembla was operating in February 1883.⁵ The Mount Kembla mine was operating in 1882. Most miners lived in a company village at Kembla Heights in cottages built by the mine company. Others resided on freehold land nearby.⁶ Community facilities emerged. In 1884, the Primitive Methodist Church opened followed in 1888 by the Presbyterian Church. St Clement's Roman Catholic Church was dedicated in 1892.⁷ A post office opened in 1892.⁸ The Mount Kembla or Violet Hill school, as it was known until April 1884, served the mining community as well as the existing farming community, though miners unsuccessfully called for a school more accessible to their children.⁹ Unable to obtain a hotel for their community, in 1896, miners formed the Kembla Heights Workmen's Club, which also obtained a liquor licence.¹⁰

Helensburgh

Helensburgh was originally named Camp Creek and emerged when coalmines opened in 1884 in anticipation of the rail line. The South Cumberland Coal Mining Co began opening a shaft at 'Camp Creek' in June 1886. Mining operations commenced under a new company, the Metropolitan Coal Company in March 1888.¹¹

The original settlement was a tent village for construction workers on the railway. A post office was set up in 1886. The name Helensburgh came into use in May 1887. A public school opened in July 1887.¹²

¹ Shown as Patrick Lehaey on parish maps.

² Jervis, 'Illawarra', p 88

³ A P Fleming, *The Pioneer Kerosene Works at American Creek (Mt Kembla, NSW)*, Illawarra Historical Society, Wollongong, 1976, p 4-5

⁴ Ibid, p 4-5, 9-10; Jervis, 'Illawarra', p 297

⁵ A P Fleming, *The Pioneer Kerosene Works at American Creek*, p 10

⁶ S Piggin & H Lee, *The Mt Kembla Disaster*, Oxford University Press, Melbourne, 1992, p 15

⁷ Piggin & Lee, *Mt Kembla Disaster*, p 32

⁸ Piggin & Lee, *Mt Kembla Disaster*, p 15

⁹ Piggin & Lee, *Mt Kembla Disaster*, p 16; NSW – Dept of School Education, *Government Schools of New South Wales 1848 to 1993*, Dept of School Education, 1993, Sydney, p 106

¹⁰ Piggin & Lee, *Mt Kembla Disaster*, p 32

¹¹ Jervis, 'Illawarra', p 295

¹² NSW – Dept of School Education, *Government Schools of New South Wales 1848 to 1993*, Dept of School Education, 1993, Sydney, p 80

A private village laid out on land owned by Sir John Robertson was sold in August 1887.¹ Since the coal company kept tight control of its land around the mine the government proclaimed the Village of Helensburgh West on 15 February 1892 with sites for a school, town hall, post office, police station and courthouse. There were already a number of miners' cottages dotted along the road on what became Section 1 of the new village.² Apart from Wollongong, it is the only government town in the area. All the other towns and villages arose from private subdivisions.

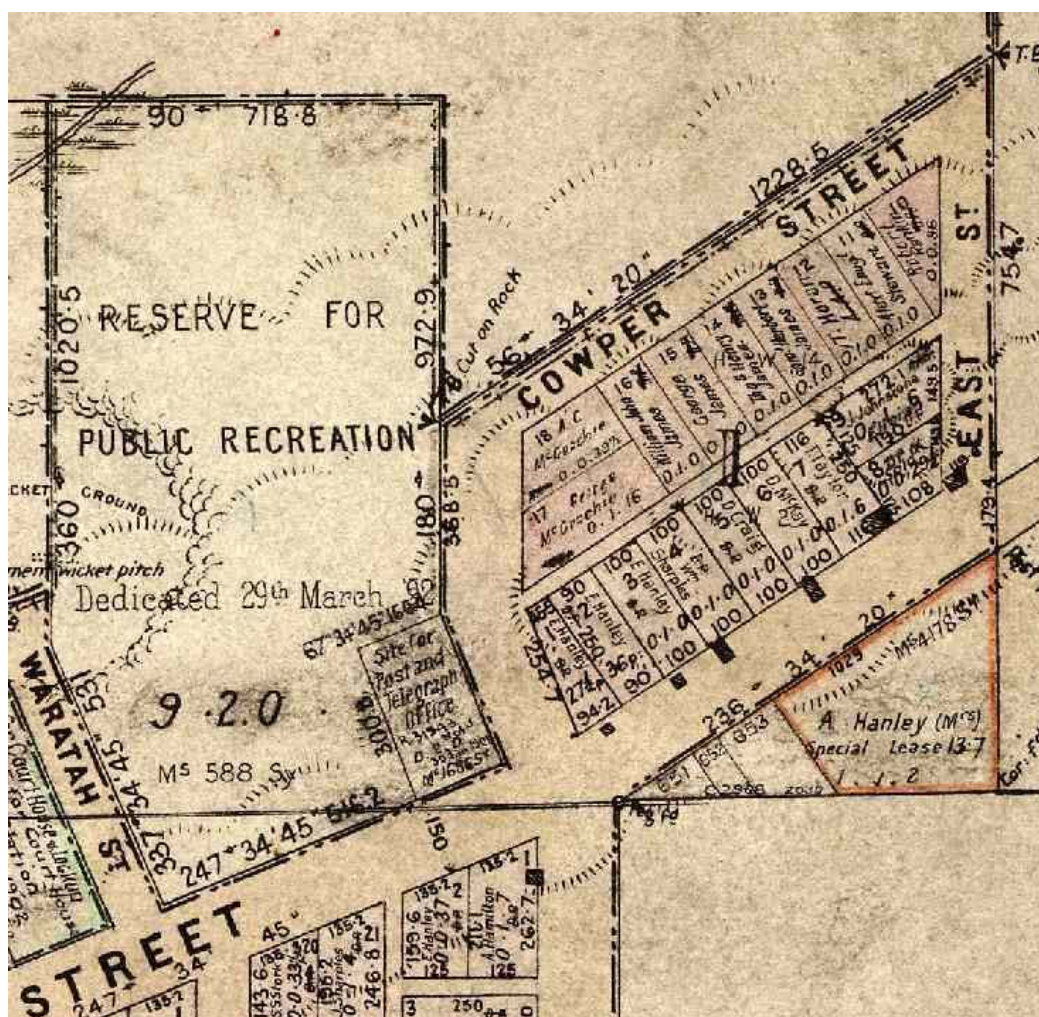


Figure 8 Section 1, Village of Helensburgh West, March 1893, showing existing buildings. Source: Village Map, Dept of Lands, Image 14035201

A recreation ground was gazetted on 29 March 1892.³ The miners formed a co-operative store in 1892.⁴ The School of Arts building in Walker Street opened on its own grant on 10 September 1894.⁵ The Helensburgh Workmen's Social and Literary

¹ Bayley, *Bulli*, p 47-8

² Town Map, Helensburgh West, 1892

³ Bayley, *Bulli*, p 61

⁴ Rogers, 'Thematic History', p 42

⁵ Bayley, *Bulli*, p 61

Club was formed in its own premises in Main Street in 1898.¹ A new post office opened on 25 February 1901 at the corner of Cowper and Parkes Streets built by G Ricketts.²

Secondary themes

Housing miners and their families (Slab former miner's cottage, 200 Princes Highway, Bulli; Mount Kembla miners' cottages, Kembla Heights)

Providing retail services (Former Denmark Hotel, 202 Princes Highway, Bulli)

Establishing religious facilities (Roman Catholic Church, 356 Cordeaux Road, Mount Kembla)

Building a community culture (Woonona/Bulli School of Arts, 479 Princes Highway, Bulli)

Supplying and maintaining mining equipment and consumables

1.3.6.3 Theme - Creating seaside resorts

Stanwell Park

On 13 August 1824, Matthew John Gibbons obtained a permit to occupy land at 'Watermolly', which appears to have been the future site of Stanwell Park. A grant for this promise was issued on 31 August 1833.³ Early access was difficult but a railway platform built for Lawrence Hargrave made Stanwell Park more accessible to the general public.⁴

Major sales of building lots in 1908 and 1914 opened up the area as a tourist and surfing destination.⁵ On 27 January 1908, Henry F Halloran conducted a major auction sale of Stanwell Park covering the whole subdivision.⁶ Shortly afterwards, on 11 February 1908, the Helensburgh-Stanwell Park Life Saving Club was formed.⁷

¹ Rogers, 'Thematic History', p 42

² Bayley, *Bulli*, p 61

³ RPA 15052

⁴ A Gibbs & C Warne, *Wollongong: A Pictorial History*, Kingsclear, 1995, p 73

⁵ Bayley, *Bulli*, p 69

⁶ Stanwell Park Subdivision Plans, ML, ZTP:S4/1

⁷ Bayley, *Bulli*, p 69



Figure 9 Stanwell Park, 'The Gem of the South Coast' offered for sale on 27 January 1908. Source: Stanwell Park Subdivision Plans, ML, ZTP: S4/1

Otford

Otford was originally a railway construction village named Bulgo after the name of the parish. There were four houses and a hotel in 1885. The name was altered to

Otford in May 1885.¹ A public school opened in October 1885.² A new school building opened in August 1898.³ Branch stores were set up by traders from Clifton.⁴ The bulk of the village emerged from a subdivision auctioned on 8 April 1905 as Otford Park with 120 lots.⁵

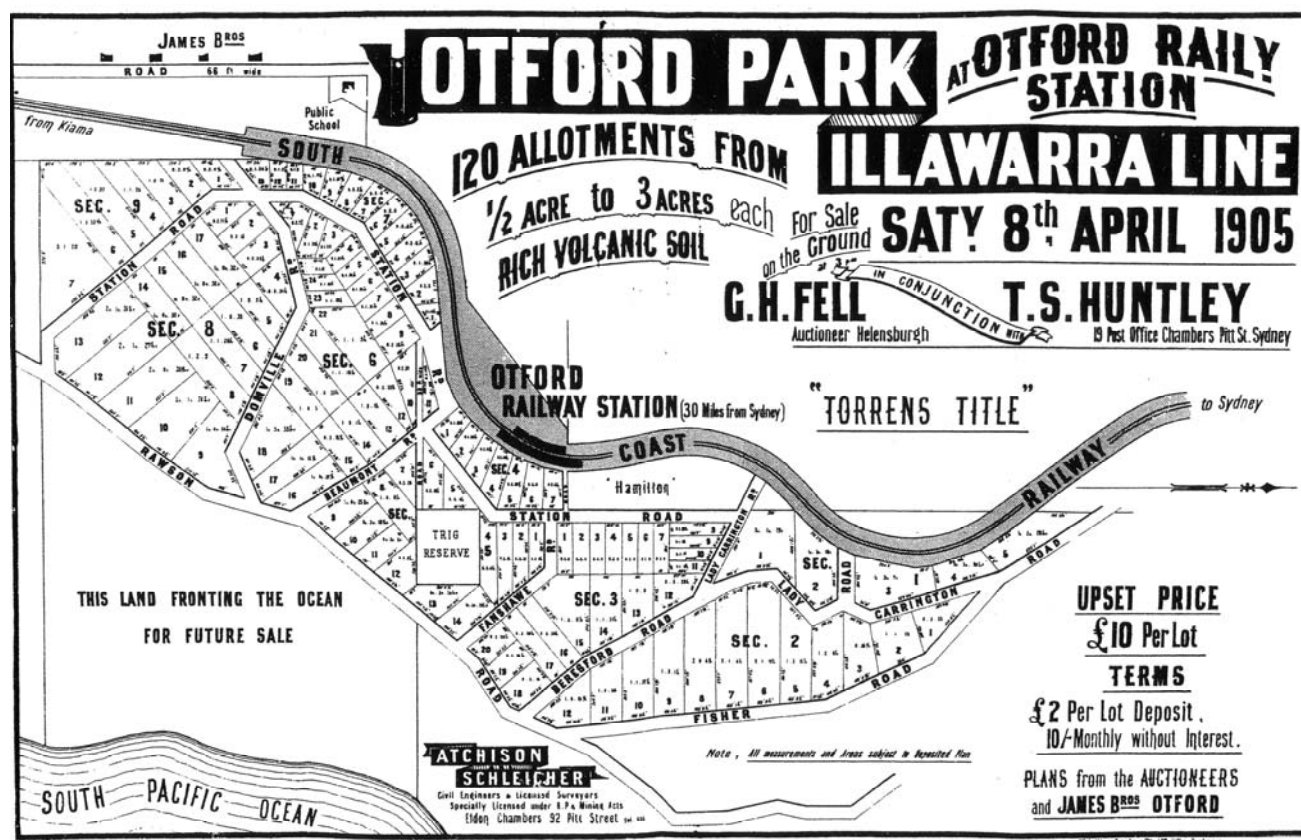


Figure 10 The Otford Park subdivision of 8 April 1905 offered 120 lots that form most of the current village. Source: Otford Subdivision Plans, ML, ZTP:O3/1

Thirroul

A rural hamlet grew around the home of Frederick Robbins. It was originally known as Chippendale. By 1870s, it was known as Newtown and soon after as Robbinsville, finally becoming Thirroul. A major railway construction camp for the third section of the railway was situated at Robbinsville.⁶ A post office opened on 1 May 1888.⁷ The 'Macaulay Park Estate, Newtown' fronting McCauley, Harbord, Ocean and Bath

¹ Bayley, *Bulli*, p 46

² NSW – Dept of School Education, *Government Schools of New South Wales 1848 to 1993*, Dept of School Education, 1993, Sydney, p 116

³ Bayley, *Bulli*, p 60

⁴ Bayley, *Bulli*, p 47

⁵ Otford Subdivision Plans, ML, ZTP:O3/1

⁶ Bayley, *Bulli*, p 43-4

⁷ Bayley, *Bulli*, p 51

Streets and the Esplanade was sold in 1888. A later sale of unsold lots was held on 20 October.¹

A public school known as Robbinsville opened in July 1889.² According to Bayley, a brick public school opened on 24 May 1889. The name of the settlement was altered officially to Thirroul on 1 November 1891.³

The Thirroul Park subdivision auctioned on 1 October 1906 spurred home building.⁴ By 1907, there were 112 householders.⁵ Railway shunting yards and a locomotive depot were established at Thirroul in 1915, which affected the tourist market but inspired 160 railway workers to settle in the town.⁶ Tourist functions shifted to Austinmer.⁷

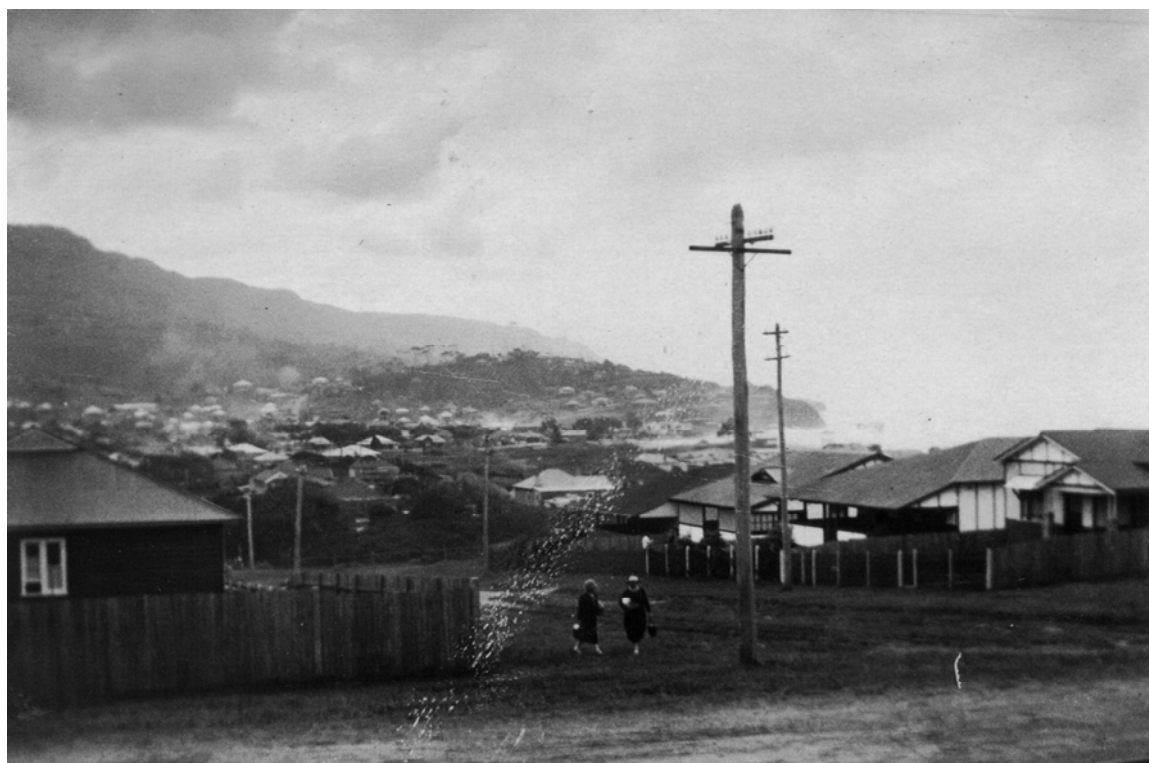


Figure 11 'Returning from Shopping' Thirroul, 1927. Note the house on the right built of unpainted fibro with oiled timber cover strips covering the joins, a common form of construction before the 1930s. Source: Album in author's collection

¹ Bayley, *Bulli*, p 51; Thirroul Subdivision Plans, ML ZTP:T7/1

² NSW – Dept of School Education, *Government Schools of New South Wales 1848 to 1993*, Dept of School Education, 1993, Sydney, p 137

³ Bayley, *Bulli*, p 51-2

⁴ Bayley, *Bulli*, p 70; Thirroul Subdivision Plans, ML, ZTP:T7/5

⁵ Bayley, *Bulli*, p 52

⁶ Bayley, *Bulli*, p 71

⁷ Robinson, *Urban Illawarra*, p 95

Austinmer

The 1861 *Crown Lands Alienation Act* opened up the area from Bulli to Coal Cliff later known as Austinmer. Surveyor Arnheim opened a road from the bottom of Bulli Pass to Coal Cliff in October 1868.¹ Originally the settlement was known as Bulli North or 'Little Bulli'. A National school was established at Bulli North (later Austinmer) in 1866.² A new public school opened on 6 May 1871.³ A brick school building was completed at 'North Bulli' in 1892.⁴

Once the North Bulli Coal and Iron Mining Co was formed and opened up the seam in 1876, the area began to grow. The name 'Austermere' was used for a while with various spellings until it became Austinmer by the mid 1890s.⁵ A post office opened at 'North Bulli' near the coal company jetty on 1 May 1887 but was soon moved south to the village where it operated from Anthony Cram's store in the main street from 1 March 1888.⁶ In March 1888, the Centennial Hall opened between the railway and the main road.⁷ St John's Church of England opened on 12 March 1904.⁸

The beach was cleared of stone in 1899, which was used to ballast the road opening up the beach to surf bathing and tourists.⁹ New baths were erected at Austinmer in 1917.¹⁰

Though there were only 26 dwellings in 1901, by 1910, five subdivisions had created 450 building lots as far south as Thirroul.¹¹ Kennedy's estate auctioned by Slade and Brown on 12 November 1906 with 70 lots facing Mountain, Kirton and the South Coast Road, Dunne Street and Oceana Parade opened up the area.¹² Austinmer grew actively from then onwards.

¹ Bayley, *Bulli*, p 40

² NSW – Dept of School Education, *Government Schools of New South Wales 1848 to 1993*, Dept of School Education, 1993, Sydney, p 25

³ Bayley, *Bulli*, p 42

⁴ Bayley, *Bulli*, p 53

⁵ Bayley, *Bulli*, p 16

⁶ Bayley, *Bulli*, p 53

⁷ Bayley, *Bulli*, p 43

⁸ Bayley, *Bulli*, p 53

⁹ Bayley, *Bulli*, p 53

¹⁰ Bayley, *Bulli*, p 69

¹¹ Rogers, 'Thematic History', p 51

¹² Bayley, *Bulli*, p 53; Austinmer Subdivisions, ML ZTP:A3/3



Figure 12 Kennedy's Estate auctioned in November 1906 opened up many lots for purchase at Austinmer. Source: Austinmer Subdivision Plans, ML, ZTP: A3/3

After 1908, the first furnished house for tourists popularly known as the 'Butterbox', which became the Outlook Guest House opened.¹ By the 1940s, a two-storey brick block had been added to the older section.²

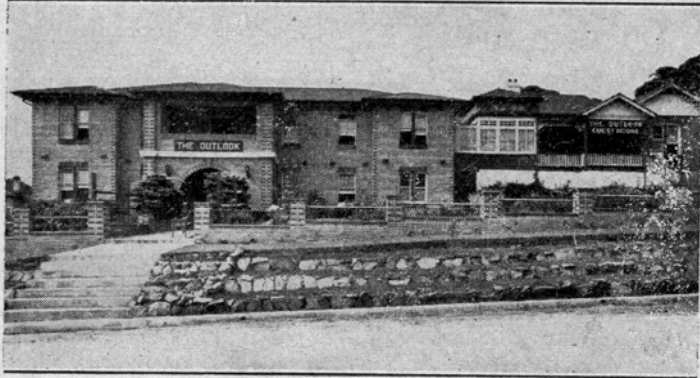
¹ Bayley, Bulli, p 69

² NSW Government Tourist Bureau, *Official Hotel and Guest-House Directory*, 28th edition, c 1946, Gregory Publishing Co, Sydney, p 90

THE OUTLOOK

A U S T I N M E R

— NAMED AND FAMED FOR ITS VIEW —



*New Brick Guest House with all
Modern Conveniences.*

Situated on high ground between the Railway Station and the Beach. **The Outlook** commands one of the grandest views to be seen anywhere in Australia. All indoor sports. Own Tennis Court. Electric Light. Hot Water Service in every bedroom. Septic Sewerage. Spacious Verandahs and Lounges. Beautiful Garden.

The House for Comfort and Outstanding Cuisine.

Tariff: Daily, from 12/6; Weekly, from 70/-.

'PHONE: THIRROUL 126.

UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF
Mr. and Mrs. L. W. WOOD

Figure 13 Advertisement for the Outlook Guesthouse in the 1940s showing the new block. Source: NSW Government Tourist Bureau, *Official Hotel and Guest-House Directory*, 28th edition, c 1946, Gregory Publishing Co, Sydney, p 90

Windang

The initial subdivisions at Windang appear to have been on the waterfront at Judbooley Parade in 1920.¹ A post office was set up in Turnbull's store, which occupied Windang House, in 1924.² The fifth subdivision of the Peterborough Estate in 1925 offered land for sale. In 1926, Turner offered the Berrwarra Estate adjoining his house 'Wyndang' for sale.³ Further subdivisions occurred in 1928.⁴ A number of major subdivisions were made in 1940 and 1941.⁵ Windang Public School opened in January 1942.⁶

In 1936, Ben Howard built Windang Boat Shed hiring boats to tourists and selling fish.⁷ The main growth of both Primbee and Windang occurred after the Second World War as steady rather than spectacular growth.⁸

Secondary themes

Subdividing and promoting seaside estates (Subdivision layout, Stanwell Park)

Changing mining villages into seaside resorts (Austinmer Heritage Conservation Area)

Providing retail services

Establishing bathing and swimming facilities (Austinmer Baths, Lawrence Hargrave Drive, Austinmer)

Forming surf life saving clubs (North Beach Surf Club, North Wollongong)

1.3.7 Theme - Developing an urban network to 1948

The industrialisation of Illawarra commenced with the founding of the Electrolytic Refining and Smelting Co (ERS) at Port Kembla in December 1908 moved from its original location at Kanahooka where it had been operating since the 1890s. Production commenced in 1909.⁹ Metal Manufactures Ltd formed in March 1916 bought a site at Port Kembla next to ERS to convert copper into wire, cable, sheet,

¹ DP 9944. Date inferred from DP sequence

² Davis, *Lake Illawarra*, p 89

³ Davis, *Lake Illawarra*, p 89

⁴ DP 14600, 15415, Date inferred from DP sequence

⁵ DP 19008, 19359 Date inferred from DP sequence

⁶ NSW – Dept of School Education, *Government Schools of New South Wales 1848 to 1993*, Dept of School Education, 1993, Sydney, p 151

⁷ Davis, *Lake Illawarra*, p 95

⁸ Eklund, *Steel Town*, p 152

⁹ Hagan & Wells, p 53

tube and alloys.¹ The Australian Fertiliser Co was established at Port Kembla in 1920.²

Between 1921 and 1947, census returns demonstrate how Illawarra shifted from a reliance on coal mining to manufacturing.³ In January 1927, Hoskins Iron and Steel Company built a new blast furnace at Port Kembla as part of its scheme of shifting operations from Lithgow.⁴ Australian Iron and Steel Ltd was formed in May 1928 by a consortium of Hoskins combined with other companies.⁵ Additional manufacturers such as Lysaghts, Commonwealth Oil Refineries and Commonwealth Rolling Mills provided new work opportunities and bolstered the importance of Port Kembla in the 1930s.

By the 1920s, the separate coal and tourist villages along the escarpment and seaside north of Woonona were starting to coalesce into a single conurbation.⁶ By 1933, Thirroul was the largest settlement in the northern area followed by Woonona and Bulli, whilst Bellambi-Corrimal may also have been as large as Thirroul but there is no definite statistical data. Port Kembla was as large as Thirroul with a population of about 3,000. All were major district centres ranking below Wollongong.⁷ From the 1930s onwards, development progressed in two sectors from Port Kembla, the first from Cringila south through Lake Heights toward Lake Illawarra and the second at Warrawong.⁸

Town Population 1933 in descending order

Town	Population
Wollongong	11,403
Thirroul	3,151
Woonona	2,998
Bulli	2,251
Helensburgh	1,492
Austinmer	827
Coledale	755
Wombarra	657
Helensburgh North	496
Scarborough	424
Russell Vale	291
Clifton	211
Coledale Heights	177
Coalcliff	114
Stanwell Park	114

¹ Hagan & Wells, p 57-8

² Hagan & Wells, p 87

³ Hagan & Wells, p 66

⁴ Hagan & Wells, p 59

⁵ Hagan & Wells, p 60

⁶ Australia, Dept of Defence, Topographic Map 1:63360, M Ser 3 804/3. Zone 8, Sheet 434, Wollongong, 1927

⁷ Robinson, *Urban Illawarra*, p 93

⁸ Robinson, *Urban Illawarra*, p 99

Town	Population
Otford	102
Austinmer North	86

Source: NSW - Premier's Department – Division of Reconstruction and Development, *The Illawarra Region: A preliminary survey of resources*, Government Printer, Sydney, 1948, p 31

Note that centres in Central Illawarra Municipality such as Dapto are not included.

Despite the importance of coal mining in the northern parts, the southern parts remained rural. The area south-west of Wollongong and Port Kembla continued to be used for growing market garden crops and raising dairy cattle. Within living memory, Dapto was a country village dominated by its dairy factories and farmers coming to town. Elsewhere, clinging to the escarpment and wedged in between the mining villages were modest farms and forest industries. In 1945, sawmills in the area included Martin Brothers at Bellambi, Molloy Brothers at Bulli and H A Cram at Corrimal.¹ Since the original cedar had been largely exhausted, millers cut the hardwoods left behind for building and for the mines.



Figure 14 Aerial view of Wollongong in 1937. Source: SR Map 32145

¹ NSW - Premier's Department – Division of Reconstruction and Development, *The Illawarra Region: A preliminary survey of resources*, Government Printer, Sydney, 1948, pp 26

The following section outlines basic information about the establishment of a new urban centre at Port Kembla. It is not intended as a comprehensive history of the town.

Port Kembla

Construction of the coal-loading jetty at Port Kembla was complete in 1883 so that the Mount Kembla Coal and Oil Co Ltd could ship its coal. Work commenced on constructing a new harbour at Port Kembla in 1900 to provide better loading facilities for coal owners and also to drive the rival Illawarra Harbour and Land Corporation out of business.¹ When the eastern breakwater was completed at Port Kembla in 1908 better loading facilities were available.²

Smelting of ores from Mount Morgan commenced in 1909. Work commenced on the northern breakwater at Port Kembla in 1912, and was completed in 1925.³ The Metal Manufactures plant was operational in 1918.

Port Kembla Public School had been operational since July 1890.⁴ A post office had been open since 1900. Local landowners took advantage of the opportunity to sell their land. On 26 June 1909, the first subdivision of part of the Wentworth estate that created Wentworth Street was sold as the 1st Subdivision of the Five Islands Estate. Subdivision of the Wentworth Estate and the establishment of Wentworth Street and Military Road gave the settlement its initial shape.⁵ An early decision to reroute the main road south to bypass Port Kembla had been made but a number of shops had already been erected on it creating a sub-regional centre.⁶

By 1920, Port Kembla had a commercial centre on Wentworth Street. The northern end stretched from J G Fairley's 'Universal Providers' store to the Great Eastern Hotel. The southern section possessed other retail buildings. Between them were the post office and Bank of New South Wales.⁷

The opening of the steelworks provided a major boost to the growth of Port Kembla. Due to poor communications in the area and the need to have managerial staff near the steelworks, a small exclusive enclave of managerial housing developed.⁸

During the 1930s, the Port Kembla and Environs Planning Committee with representatives from the Department of Local Government, the Metropolitan Water Sewerage and Drainage Board, the Valuer-General's Department, Sydney University and Central Illawarra Municipality oversaw the provision of infrastructure for the town. By 1938, it had constructed stormwater drainage, arterial roads, the Olympic

¹ Hagan & Wells, p 49

² Secomb, Dapto, np

³ Rogers, 'Thematic History', p 50

⁴ NSW – Dept of School Education, *Government Schools of New South Wales 1848 to 1993*, Dept of School Education, 1993, Sydney, p 121

⁵ Eklund, *Steel Town*, p 74-5

⁶ Robinson, *Urban Illawarra*, p 99

⁷ Eklund, *Steel Town*, p 26

⁸ Robinson, *Urban Illawarra*, p 99-100

pool, the road from Port Kembla to Lake Illawarra entrance plus the bridge across the entrance thereby opening up the area.¹

As well as developing as an industrial centre, Port Kembla's role as the major port in Illawarra superseding Wollongong Harbour ensured it acquired a role as a 'sailor's town', provisioning vessels and the offering recreational opportunities on shore for the sailors, plus boarding houses, hotels and brothels. The Port Kembla Mission to Seamen opened on 11 July 1942.²

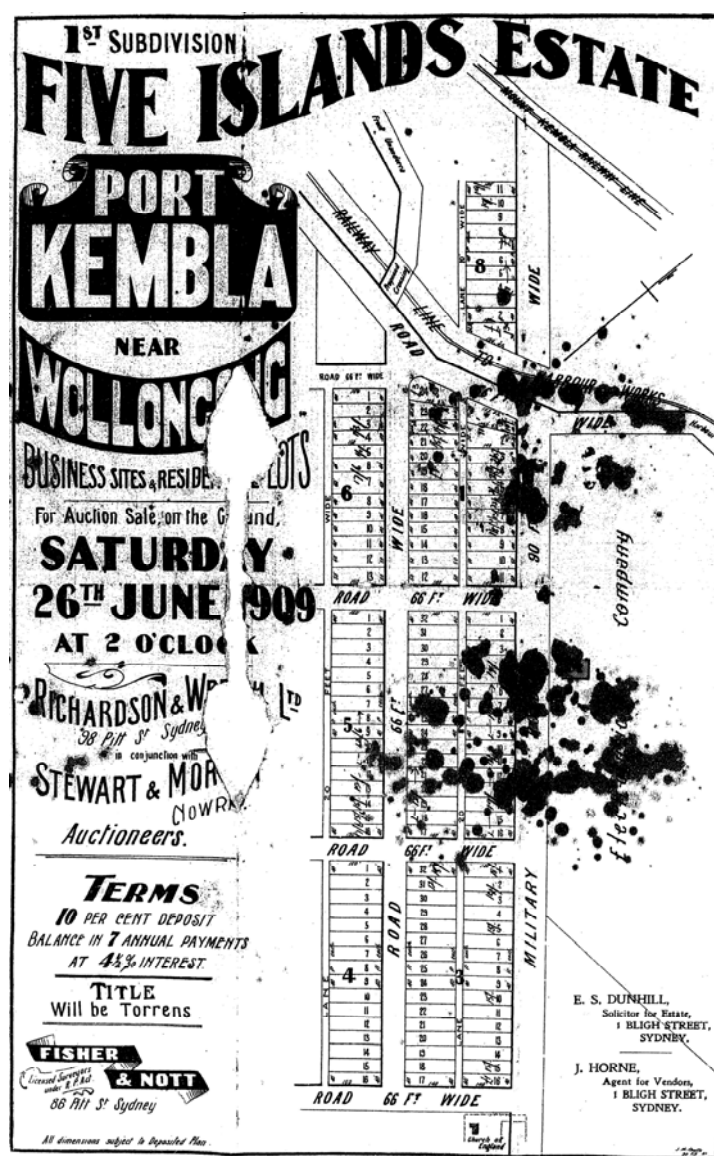


Figure 15 The first subdivision of the Five Islands Estate established the commercial core of Port Kembla. Source: Port Kembla Subdivision Plans, ML, ZTP: P3/7

¹ W Hoogendoorn, *Roadstead to World Class Port: Celebrating the Port's Centenary of service to the Illawarra 1898-1998*, Port Kembla Port Corporation, Port Kembla, 1998, p 52

² W Hoogendoorn, *Roadstead to World Class Port: Celebrating the Port's Centenary of service to the Illawarra 1898-1998*, Port Kembla Port Corporation, Port Kembla, 1998, p 61

Secondary themes

Providing retail services for an industrial town (Wentworth Street, Port Kembla)

Accommodating industrial workers

Accommodating industrial managerial and professional staff

1.3.8 Theme - Creating a city after 1948

After World War Two, Greater Wollongong expanded markedly and swamped a number of villages in the district so that many lost their separate identity. The total population of the Wollongong Council area grew by over 100% between 1947 and 1961 with much of the change due to migration. The population grew from 62,960 in 1947 in the four local government areas that were combined in 1947 to form the City of Wollongong to 131,754 in 1961.¹

Since much of the post-war employment was tied to the steelworks there was huge demand for residential land near the works, at Port Kembla, Warrawong, Cringila, Berkeley and Unanderra. The open spaces between the separate coal and rural villages started to fill up as well.² This permitted the land speculatively subdivided from 1910 to 1939 to be finally built upon. Between 1948 and 1955, residential development finally linked Brownsville with Dapto.³

An influx of migrants brought significant changes to Illawarra. Previously, non-British migrants had been a small though often significant element of the population. Migrants such as the Frenchman Eugene D Nicolle, the Polish-born Ignacy Zlotkowski and the Chinese Dion family had an important impact on the district. From 1945 onwards, the social, cultural, linguistic and economic impact of the new waves of migration altered Illawarra forever. New social clubs were formed. Sport was enlarged with new entrants. New businesses, often conducted by newly arrived migrants, grew to cater for their demands, producing new foods and altering tastes in fashions and furnishings and myriad other areas of life.

However, housing construction continued to fall behind the pace of demand. Migrants were forced to live in hostels longer than they wished due to the shortage of accommodation. Others lived in caravans and even tents set up at Stuart Park.⁴ Meanwhile, other migrants as well as Australians took advantage of a temporary relaxation of local government rules about building and accommodation standards to build a garage and live in it whilst a house was constructed on their allotment, often after work or at weekends. Many migrants settled near the hostels where they had originally been accommodated so the hostels had a significant impact on the locational pattern of incoming migrants.

¹ Commonwealth of Australia, *Census*, 1947, 1961

² Rogers, 'Thematic History', p 60

³ Secomb, Dapto, np

⁴ M Walker, 'First accommodation for Migrants arriving in Wollongong post World War 2', Wollongong's Migrant Heritage Places Study 2007, p 22-3

The 1968 Illawarra Planning Scheme zoned residential areas around all towns and villages. Until then, most residential development had been in Wollongong and the northern towns but that scheme directed development to the south-west. From the 1970s onwards, the main area for residential development at Dapto has been West Dapto.¹ This area is currently undergoing change from rural to suburban land-uses creating tensions between developers, conservationists and landowners about the impact on the escarpment.

Flat or multi-unit houses were being purpose-built in Wollongong by the 1930s. That trend continued in the post-war years. A further surge of applications followed after the war rising to applications for 11 new blocks of flats in 1955.² During the 1960s, flat development accelerated especially with redevelopment of sites in older areas but then decreased markedly in the mid 1970s.³ Though construction of houses on vacant sites had long bypassed Wollongong, by the 1980s, demand for accommodation in the centre of Wollongong was fuelling high-rise development.⁴

High demand for accommodation in the centre drove the construction of new blocks of multi-unit residential buildings, some as flat blocks and others as home unit developments, with a separate title for each unit of accommodation. In the late 1950s, as demand for smaller individual dwellings increased, the existing form of tenure for legal ownership was found to be relatively inflexible. Ownership of individual flats was not possible. Only whole blocks could be owned. Pressure built for changes to the law. Lobbying by real estate developers and the Real Estate Institute of NSW ensured the passing of the *Strata Titles Act*, 1961, which permitted the ownership of individual home units.⁵ A flood of unit developments followed across Sydney and ultimately in the City of Wollongong.

By the early 1970s, an oversupply of home units in Sydney was encouraging developers to shift their attention to Wollongong. Demand for owner-occupied home units in central Wollongong was so high that most units were sold to owner-occupiers rather than being used for rental. Older flat blocks were converted to strata title to keep up with the demand for owner-occupied units. The construction of home units for sale rather than rent was also expanding into the outer suburbs by the mid 1970s.⁶ That boom profoundly changed the character of the centre of Wollongong where multi-unit blocks dominate the ridges.

Cringila was an example of how a suburb evolved from the influx of migrants and suburban development in the post war period and its suburban origins will be briefly outlined below.

¹ Secomb, Dapto, np

² *Statistical Register of New South Wales*, 1955, p 412

³ I Pratt, *Production, distribution and consumption of housing*, p 29

⁴ Rogers, 'Thematic History', p 65

⁵ T Kass, *The Sign of the Waratah: A history of the Real Estate Institute of NSW – The first 75 Years*, Real Estate Institute of NSW, Sydney, 1987, pp 176-7

⁶ B Ross & P J Wilson, *The Market for Rental Housing in Wollongong*, Economic Research Bulletin 4, Dept of Economics, Wollongong University College, University of NSW, July 1973, p 14

Cringila

A sale brochure was issued for the sale of the 'Steeltown Estate' running from Five Islands Road to near Fitzgerald's farmhouse, either in the late 1920s or early 1930s.¹ This matches a subdivision plan of the same estate that was offered for private sale through Giddings and Co.² The Deposited Plan number for this estate (DP 16051) shows the plan was registered in 1929 suggesting that sales began about that time. Due to its location close to the Steelworks, 'Steeltown' became a popular suburb for steelworkers. After World War Two, the estate became a centre for migrant workers and their families.

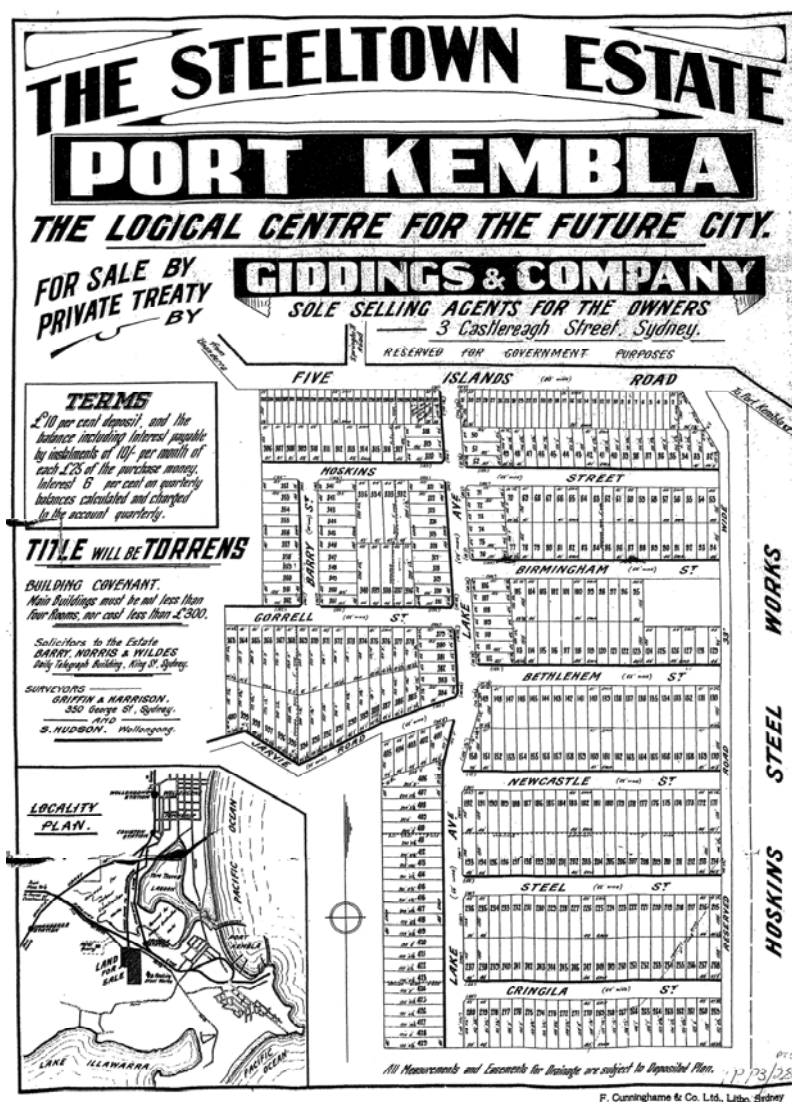


Figure 16 An undated sale plan of the Steeltown Estate from the late 1920s or 1930s. Source: Port Kembla Subdivision Plans, ML, ZSP: P3/28

¹ D K Reynolds, *A history of the land purchased for the building of the Port Kembla steelworks*, BHP Flat Products, Port Kembla, 2001, p 47-9

² Port Kembla Subdivision Plans, ML, ZSP:P3/28

An aerial photograph of 1936 showed the outline of streets at Cringila but hardly any settlement.¹ However, there were enough local residents to ensure that Steeltown Public School was opened in 1935 on Flagstaff Avenue. A post office also operated nearby at the corner of Fitzgerald Street and Lake Avenue. The public school pupils were moved to Berkeley Public School in 1942 away from gun emplacements built to protect the steelworks and the post office also moved about that time. The shifting away of the facilities associated with the name of the estate ensured the name of the railway station nearby Cringila (originally spelt Cringilla) came to be applied to this area. The current Cringila Public School opened in January 1957.²

The Karingal Migrant hostel conducted by Australian Iron and Steel was located nearby at the corner of Five Islands Road and Springhill Road from 1948 to 1984 accommodating single men employed by Australian Iron and Steel. In addition, the Steelhaven hostel in Warrawong and the Unanderra hostel were also close.³ Situated next to the steelworks, the Steeltown Estate attracted many new migrants wanting to build their own homes after 1945.

On 26 April 2005, the unveiling of the Cringila communal oven not only united Cringila communities also demonstrated the diverse mix of the population when Macedonians, Aboriginals and Muslims attended the event. A sure sign of the fusion of diverse cooking styles emerged when one participant outlined how she had combining traditional Aboriginal and Western foods in her cooking for years.⁴

Secondary themes

Housing post-war migrants and their families

Living in hostels (Balgownie Hostel, Montague Street, Fairy Meadow)

Diversifying the housing stock

Exploring diverse foods

¹ D K Reynolds, *A history of the land*, p 34

² D K Reynolds, *A history of the land*, p 49

³ M Walker, 'First accommodation for Migrants arriving in Wollongong post World War 2', Wollongong's Migrant Heritage Places Study 2007, p 6, 39

⁴ *Illawarra Mercury*, 27 April 2005

1.4 Contextual Essay - Making a Living

Work ranges from professional occupations through commercial activities with their own special forms of knowledge and expertise, notably in small business through to the skilled, semi-skilled and unskilled. Even apparently ‘unskilled’ jobs, such as ploughing, horse breaking or milking a cow had their distinct sets of special knowledge.

1.4.1 Theme - Working on the land

Convicts supplied the bulk of the rural labour force in the early period of settlement but by the 1840s this was changing. The 1841 census showed that free settlers were already becoming a significant proportion of the labour force.¹ The Paulsgrove diary is a remarkable record of the work regime on such properties, with a round of sowing, harrowing, burning off scrub, occasionally enlivened by a bout of shooting in the bush or even events such as the beaching of a whale.²

Transportation of convicts had ceased in 1840. With no ready supply of cheap labour to clear and work their properties, landowners had to use other methods. Clearing leases were used to clear land cheaply. Subdividing estates for letting as clearing leases or for sale cut up their properties allowing a rural yeomanry to settle on the land.

Once the area was identified as an ideal production area with the appropriate climate and soils and access to market, dairying became the main activity for small farmers. Factors which promoted the success of dairying included the introduction of refrigeration using the Mort-Nicolle system; the use of the factory system to manufacture butter; the introduction of the cream separator; the formation of co-operative societies to market and then manufacture dairy products; and lastly the extension of the railway to Illawarra making access to market much easier.³

Gathering wild or semi-wild products has long been a supplement to farmed food, a resource relied on heavily by the Aborigines. Blackberries that had run wild infesting land near Bulli and Sherbrooke were harvested by local residents for sale to jam making factories in the 1900s and served as a supplementary item of diet for years.⁴ They were still a notable part of the local economy in the 1940s.⁵

Secondary themes

Working for private persons as an assigned convict

¹ K & T Henderson, *Early Illawarra - People, houses, life*, History Project Inc, Canberra, 1983, p 25

² W G McDonald (ed), *The Paulsgrove Diary: Illawarra 1833-1834*, Illawarra Historical Society, Wollongong, 1988

³ Jervis, ‘Illawarra’, p 279

⁴ Bayley, *Bulli*, p 59

⁵ NSW - Premier’s Department – Division of Reconstruction and Development, *The Illawarra Region: A preliminary survey of resources*, Government Printer, Sydney, 1948, p 14

Returning convicts to civil society

Labouring on rural properties

Working on dairy farms ('Glen Ayre', Sheaffes Road, West Dapto, including cow stalls)

Hunting

1.4.2 Theme - Fishing the waters

Long before white Europeans came to Illawarra, the local Aboriginals were fishing Lake Illawarra. They often fished in the dark using torches made of bark to lure the fish, which were impaled by a multi-pronged spear, and thrown ashore. In time, they adopted European fishing techniques. In the 1870s, they were using European boats and tackle when George Timbery and William Saddler requested a boat and tackle from the government. Once the boat was in their possession they were able to fish deeper waters as well as the Lake.¹

European settlers also gathered food from the wild. The most notable activity was fishing. Cornelius O'Brien had a scheme to use Bulli harbour as a boiling down site for whales.² By the 1870s, a retired sailor named Perkins lived on one of the Five Islands catching sharks and selling their oil in Sydney.³ In May 1893, fishing in the open sea commenced from Wollongong Harbour to supply fish to Sydney.⁴

Lake Illawarra has extensive sea grass beds and small fish which provide food for prawns and fish so it is a major breeding area for fish such as sea mullet, bream, whiting, luderick and prawns. The arrival of the railway in the 1880s enabled Lake Illawarra fishermen to load fish at Unanderra to sell at Sydney. Lots in the fishing village near Lake Illawarra facing Lake, Short and George Streets were auctioned on 29 November 1905.⁵ A small fishing community had emerged. On 8 April 1908, when a number of lots at Unanderra station were auctioned, the fishing village at Berkeley was also shown on the plan.⁶

In the early twentieth century, fishermen located at 'Fishtown', later known as Berkeley included Harry Green, Andy Dennis, Dick Sheldon and Dick Shepherd.⁷ Italian fishermen operated out of Wollongong Harbour. Bob West remembered catching prawns on the Lake in the 1920s and 1930s.⁸

¹ J Davis, *Lake Illawarra – an Ongoing History*, Lake Illawarra Authority, Wollongong, 2005, p 76

² N S King, *Cornelius O'Brien: Pioneer of Bulli*, Illawarra Historical Society, Wollongong, 1965, p 10-11

³ Jervis, 'Illawarra', p 132

⁴ M Hutton, Conservation Study for Belmore Basin Conservation Area, Wollongong, NSW, June 1997, For Wollongong City Council, p 20

⁵ County Camden Subdivision Plans, ML, ZCP:C1/29

⁶ County Camden Subdivision Plans, ML, ZCP:C1/43

⁷ Davis, *Lake Illawarra*, p 76

⁸ B West, *My Port Kembla*, Illawarra Historical Society, Wollongong, 1999, p 3

After the Second World War, concrete tetrahedrons from a major tank trap that ran from Mullet Creek to Kembla Grange were used to construct the breakwater at Berkeley.¹ In 1926, the Illawarra Coastal Fishery Co was formed at 'Fish Town', which became Berkeley. A Fishermen's Co-operative was set up at Berkeley in 1985.²

Secondary themes

Fishing (Berkeley Harbour)

Hunting and processing whales

1.4.3 Theme - Mining

The development of coal mining has been dealt with in Section 1.3.5 above.

Though coal was the main focus of mining activity, other mining and quarrying occurred. From the 1940s to the 1970s, large quantities of sand were quarried from the peninsula south of Port Kembla running south to Windang for construction, filling and even for export.³ Beach sands were mined at Bulli, and Wollongong-Port Kembla beaches to extract 3,319 tons of rutile and 3,071 tons of zircon concentrate between 1953 and 1958.⁴

1.4.3.1 Theme - Making coke

The production of coke originally using small waste coal or dust was an ancillary industry of some significance. In 1875, James Osborne and William Ahern erected a coke works near Flagstaff Point, Wollongong to process the slack from the Osborne mine but it did not operate for long.⁵ The ovens were sold in June 1879 and dismantled. In 1885, William Ashley re-established coke ovens at the Wollongong Harbour site and worked it until 1890 when the lease expired.⁶

It was reported in 1885 that a site for a coke works had been selected that would commence production in January. It was associated with the Broker's Nose Colliery on a property at Mount Corrimal and would manufacture 600 tons per week using slack from the mine.⁷ It was in operation by 1886 but out of production by 1890.⁸

¹ Davis, *Lake Illawarra*, p 96-9

² Secomb, Dapto, np

³ Davis, *Lake Illawarra*, p 100-4

⁴ D W Wynn, Mineral resources of the Illawarra region – limestone and beach sand minerals, Dept of Mineral Resources, Report GS1963/037

⁵ Jervis, 'Illawarra', p 296

⁶ M Hutton, Conservation Study for Belmore Basin Conservation Area, Wollongong, NSW, June 1997, For Wollongong City Council, p 72

⁷ Jervis, 'Illawarra', p 296

⁸ Rogers, 'Thematic History', p 33

The Australian Coke Making Company erected 20 ovens at Unanderra in 1888 with other ovens added in 1889. They used slack coal from the Southern Coal Company's Corrimal Colliery. Also in 1889, Figtree and Robshaw [sic] erected 4 beehive ovens near the Mount Pleasant tramway overbridge at the government railway.¹

The Bulli Coke Company owned by George Adams began operating with 20 modified coppee ovens near Bulli Jetty on 20 July 1889 becoming the first viable works. It was later linked with the government railway line.²

The Mount Lyell Co established a battery of ovens near the Mount Kembla Coal Co jetty to supply its works in 1899. Their coke works continued until 1925.³

BHP opened 100 coke ovens between Bellambi and Woonona in 1903 to produce coke for Broken Hill.⁴ In 1906, the North Bulli coke works opened at Coledale.⁵ By 1907, Wollongong was the centre of the state coke industry, with 453 ovens producing 83 per cent of the state's total coke output.⁶

In 1910, the Mount Lyell Company's coke ovens were set up at Port Kembla, and operated until they were demolished in 1926. Also in 1910, a new plant at North Bulli run by Figtree Brothers superseded the Mount Pleasant coke works. After a coke works was set up at Corrimal in 1912, the Unanderra Coke works closed. The Illawarra Coke Company set up 50 ovens at Coalcliff in 1914.⁷ After purchasing the Wongawilli coalmine, Hoskins Iron and Steel was sending 1,600 tons of coke per month to Lithgow from its coke ovens at Wongawilli by April 1918.⁸

Rationalisation of the industry caused a series of closures from the 1930s onwards. In 1930, the coke works of the Bulli Coke Company closed. BHP's Bellambi Coke works closed in 1935. The Wongawilli coke works closed in 1945 when additional coke ovens were erected at Port Kembla.⁹ The Federal Coke Company North Wollongong works closed in 1971.¹⁰ Cokeworks still operate at Coalcliff, Corrimal and Port Kembla.

1.4.4 Theme - Working in workshops, mills or factories

Manufacturing can be divided into those activities which processed rural raw materials, some of them associated with food such as slaughter yards or mills; workshop style production where the employer or owner worked on the floor with his employees and with no more than 5 to 10 employees; and large 'factory' style enterprises.

¹ Rogers, 'Thematic History', p 33

² Rogers, 'Thematic History', p 33; Bayley, *Bulli*, p 19

³ Rogers, 'Thematic History', p 33

⁴ Bayley, *Bulli*, p 19

⁵ Rogers, 'Thematic History', p 50

⁶ Hagan & Wells, p 50

⁷ Rogers, 'Thematic History', p 50

⁸ Hagan & Wells, p 59

⁹ Rogers, 'Thematic History', p 56

¹⁰ Rogers, 'Thematic History', p 60

Rural processing industries are often the first to commence in any newly settled district and Illawarra was no exception. Cornelius O'Brien had a scheme to use Bulli harbour as a boiling down site for whales.¹ As has been noted in other studies, there is no evidence it was ever operational.² Others set up flour mills to grind the grain from local growers. J S Spearing set up two water driven mills on Para Creek in the early 1830s, followed by a windmill. A steam flourmill was later set up at Fairy Meadow.³ Rural processing handling grain began to close down as wheat growing ceased, from the 1860s onwards. The mill at Wollongong had to obtain supplies from Sydney and the mill at Dapto was converted into cheese factory.⁴

Early in the nineteenth century, Gooseberry Island in Lake Illawarra was used by M A Brown to produce salt. Lime was also produced there by burning shells.⁵ A small salt works was erected at the south end of Austinmer beach for the Illawarra Salt Co in 1893 and in 1894, the Sydney Salt Co constructed a much more elaborate scheme at Hicks Point south of Austinmer jetty. Both soon closed. From the mid 1890s, pharmacist Courtney Puckey experimented with a small salt works near North Beach.⁶

The Illawarra Meat Company was formed in 1921, when Hutton Brothers shifted their butchering operations from Camden to Bellambi after buying J J Smale's abattoir and grazing paddocks, a butcher shop at Woonona and a delivery wagon. The firm expanded, buying the South Coast Meat Co Pty Ltd, in Crown Street, Wollongong in 1933 and entering a partnership with J H Lindsay with shops at Port Kembla and North Wollongong and a pig farm at West Dapto in 1935.⁷

Dairying also produced processing plants. A dairy factory was operating at Dapto in 1886.⁸ In 1890, the NSW Fresh Food and Ice Co built a factory at Dapto on a three-acre site south of the Dapto railway station. By 1899, the Farmers and Dairymen's Company works in Hamilton Street was also in operation. The Dapto Co-operative Dairy Company factory was in Station Street. The Dapto Co-operative Dairy was formed in 1900. In 1901, the NSW Fresh Food and Ice Co set up a creamery at Avondale.⁹ In 1900, the Country Milk Co had a creamery at Brownsville.¹⁰

A significant early industry was the production of oil shale, which was discovered at American Creek in 1864.¹¹ In 1865, a retort plant had been constructed for £4,000 and commenced operation. In 1870, there were 23 retorts producing kerosene for proprietors John, Edward and Neville Graham. In 1874, it was sold to the Mount

¹ N S King, *Cornelius O'Brien: Pioneer of Bulli*, Illawarra Historical Society, Wollongong, 1965, p 10-11

² Therin Archaeological Consulting, Sandon Point Aboriginal Heritage Study, Volume 1, Report, For Wollongong City Council, June 2003, p 51

³ Cousins, *Garden of New South Wales*, p 97, 203

⁴ Jervis, 'Illawarra', p 276

⁵ Barwick, *Berkeley*, p 9

⁶ Rogers, 'Thematic History', p 33

⁷ Based on 'The Illawarra Meat Company: Outline History' by Richard Dallison Hutton, supplied by Meredith Hutton, 21 July 2010

⁸ Jervis, 'Illawarra', p 281

⁹ Secomb, Dapto, np

¹⁰ *Yewen's Directory of the Landholders of New South Wales, 1900*, Farm & Dairy Publishing Co, Sydney, 1900, p 571

¹¹ Jervis, 'Illawarra', p 296

Kembla Coal and Oil Company. After working intermittently after 1876, it was finally abandoned after 1880.¹

Small workshop type manufacturing enterprises also supplied local and regional markets. An early activity was shipbuilding at Wollongong Harbour, which straddles the boundary between the workshop and the factory style of production. On 28 June 1833, instructions were issued to survey an acre at Wollongong for shipbuilder John Cunningham for a shipyard on the harbour.² He built a number of vessels there.³

W Davies' Lilleshall iron and steel foundry was in operation in Charlotte Street, Wollongong by 1882, making cast iron products such as grates and wagon wheels.⁴ In 1883, James Parkinson set up a cordial factory in Achilles and Flinders Streets, North Wollongong. He later shifted to Crown Street and finally to Kenny Street. He died in 1903.⁵ Shelleys bought the firm when it was situated in Kenny Street in 1966 but closed the works on 23 June 1978.⁶ The Wollongong Cycle and Engineering Works manufactured bicycles in 1902 and claimed to have the most advanced bicycle works outside Sydney.⁷



Figure 17 Parkinson's Cordial Factory in 1895 at the corner of Achilles and Flinders Streets, North Wollongong. Source: Illawarra Images, No P02/P02524

¹ A P Fleming, *The Pioneer Kerosene Works at American Creek (Mt Kembla, NSW)*, Illawarra Historical Society, Wollongong, 1976, p 4-5, 9-10; Jervis, 'Illawarra', p 297

² Jervis, 'Illawarra', p 103

³ Jervis, 'Illawarra', p 298

⁴ Rogers, 'Thematic History', p 33

⁵ A Wood, *Tales from Our Streets: A Photographic History of Wollongong*, Author, Figtree, 1999, p 86-7

⁶ A Gibbs & C Warne, *Wollongong: A Pictorial History*, Kingsclear, 1995, p 119

⁷ *Illawarra and South Coast Tourist's Guide*, 1902-3, Wilson & Co, Sydney, 1902, p 35

Production of building products was active in the nineteenth century. Initially, cedar was cut from the forests of Illawarra to ship to Sydney. By the 1850s, local sawmills were operating. In July 1858, Robert Somerville set up a steam sawmill in the Bulli area followed in 1864 by another set up by John Somerville. William Somerville operated a sawmill in Bulli and another was established at the top of Bulli Mountain in 1878.¹

Thomas Pendlebury's brickworks opened on a new site on the main road near Gray Street, Woonona in 1901. Bricks from the works were used to erect the Queen Victoria Building in Sydney and the Bulli Parish hall.² The Illawarra Fireclay and Brick Co was formed in 1907 to use the same seam as Pendlebury to produce refractory bricks for use in coke ovens and steel furnaces. It was located between Woonona and Bellambi station.³ Another brickworks opened at Thirroul in 1919.⁴ The Bulli Brick & Tile Co opened near Slacky Flat in 'Woods Farm' paddock in 1948.⁵ From 1910 until the 1990s, the Vulcan Fire Brick Company operated at Thirroul undertaking extensive quarrying next to Hewitts Creek.⁶

Metal refining and processing in the twentieth century were instrumental in converting Wollongong from an area reliant upon coal and dairying into an industrial metropolis. It commenced with the government provision of adequate harbour facilities, first developed to ship coal, but it drew metal firms to the area. In 1895, the private Illawarra Harbour and Land Corporation erected a smelter at Dapto to process ore for Broken Hill Pty Co.⁷

But industrialisation of Illawarra really began with the founding the Electrolytic Refining and Smelting Co (ERS) at Port Kembla in December 1908.⁸ In the wake of the embargo on enemy ownership of Australian companies, three of the Collins House group of companies combined in March 1916 to form Metal Manufactures Ltd, which bought a site at Port Kembla next to ERS to convert its copper into wire, cable, sheet, tube and alloys. Metal Manufactures Ltd commenced operations with 79 employees in February 1918.⁹ The Australian Fertiliser Co was established at Port Kembla in 1920.¹⁰

Between 1921 and 1947, the census returns demonstrate how the Wollongong area shifted from a reliance on coal mining to manufacturing.¹¹ In January 1927, Hoskins Iron and Steel Company built a new blast furnace at Port Kembla as part of its scheme of shifting operations from Lithgow to obtain better access to coal and water access to

¹ Bayley, *Bulli*, p 30

² Bayley, *Bulli*, p 55

³ W Gemmell, *And So We Graft From Six to Six: The brickmakers of New South Wales*, Angus & Robertson, Sydney, 1986, p 83

⁴ Bayley, *Bulli*, p 78

⁵ Bayley, *Bulli*, p 82

⁶ Therin Archaeological Consulting, Sandon Point Aboriginal Heritage Study, Volume 1, Report, For Wollongong City Council, June 2003, p 10

⁷ Hagan & Wells, p 47

⁸ Hagan & Wells, p 53

⁹ Hagan & Wells, p 57-8

¹⁰ Hagan & Wells, p 87

¹¹ Hagan & Wells, p 66

iron ore from other states plus shorter and cheaper shipping costs to Sydney.¹ Australian Iron and Steel Ltd was formed in May 1928 by a consortium of Hoskins combined with other companies.² Its No 1 blast furnace was blown in on 24 August 1928.³ But the onset of the Great Depression, inadequate capital backing and fierce cost cutting competition from BHP soon made the firm unsteady and seeking new capital. In 1935, Broken Hill Pty Ltd took over AIS, which was suffering from capital problems and price-cutting by BHP.⁴ The *Australian Iron and Steel Ltd Act*, 1936 (No 36) facilitated the purchase of an additional 1,665 acres of land at Tom Thumb Lagoon.⁵

In 1932, the railway link from Moss Vale to Port Kembla was complete. It had been built at the insistence of Hoskins to allow him to ship limestone from Marulan to Port Kembla for his furnaces.⁶

AIS turned the area into one dominated by one big industry rather than one with lots of small coal mining companies.⁷ BHP bought coalmines at Bulli in 1936 and Mount Keira in 1937 to feed its steelmaking plant. From March 1936 to December 1938, Lysaghts operated an old sheet mill but opened its own new mill in January 1939 to produce rolled steel sheet.⁸ Commonwealth Oil Refineries opened a petrol-blending works in 1937 utilising benzol produced by the BHP coke works. The Commonwealth Rolling Mills began producing high finish steel for car bodies and appliances in February 1939.⁹

World War Two encouraged BHP to add engineering to its works at Port Kembla making machinery and parts and Lysaghts also diversified with the production of the Owen gun.¹⁰ During the Second World War, Wollongong and its partner Port Kembla were a vital element of the Australian war effort. By end of World War Two, due to the large investment in Wollongong industry from outside the area including from overseas, decisions affecting those industries would be taken by those with no direct relationship with the place.¹¹ A listing of manufacturing industries in the Greater Wollongong area in 1945 is provided in Section 6.0.

Between 1945 and 1976, expansion of the steel industry drove the expansion of Wollongong, which was one of the fastest growing areas in Australia.¹² Many of the steelworkers were migrants, some of them sponsored by the steelworks. Declining world demand for steel and the entry of more efficient and cheaper competitors overseas meant that BHP was less able to sell its surplus output overseas. There were

¹ Hagan & Wells, p 59

² Hagan & Wells, p 60

³ Rogers, 'Thematic History', p 50

⁴ Hagan & Wells, p 62

⁵ D K Reynolds, *A history of the land purchased for the building of the Port Kembla steelworks*, BHP Flat Products, Port Kembla, 2001, p 26

⁶ Hagan & Wells, p 59

⁷ Hagan & Wells, p 87

⁸ Hagan & Wells, p 62

⁹ Hagan & Wells, p 62

¹⁰ Hagan & Wells, p 65

¹¹ Hagan & Wells, p 70

¹² Hagan & Wells, p 71

massive reductions of staff especially in 1982-3.¹ Other producers also suffered. Southern Copper closed down in 1995.²

As well as being one of the most significant areas for metal manufacturing in Australia, Illawarra has also had a marked impact on Australian eating habits. In 1920, Edwin Street began producing hand-churned custards at his grocer's shop in Corrimal, which he sold to other shops. It was promoted as 'The Cream of the Coast'. In 1934, he bought the Corrimal Ice Works and set up Streets Ice Cream Ltd and the Illawarra Delicacy Co. He later shifted production to Sydney.³ By 1928, Frank Guest was operating the Popular Café in Crown Street, when began to produce pies with his brother. They branched into cake making and the firm had 10 shops and many franchises in 1995.⁴ The post-war migrant influx inspired new food processors and manufacturers supplying the diverse foods demanded by migrants, whose initial experience of Australo-British cuisine in the hostels was not a happy one.⁵

The purchase by the Illawarra Meat Company of a smallgoods depot and partly constructed factory at Woonona in 1948 from George Thorburn coupled with sponsoring the emigration of two Dutch smallgoods makers allowed it to introduce production of European style smallgoods to the Illawarra. In later years, it also introduced halal certified meat production. After Wollongong Council decided that all slaughtering and rendering must be carried out in a new Noxious Industry Zone established at Yallah, the company bought 80 acres of land in 1974 establishing an export quality abattoir. Dorahy Brothers also bought land and re-established at Yallah. Once Parrish Meat shifted to Yallah, all the noxious industries were concentrated there. Though parts of the Illawarra Meat Company have been sold off, the smallgoods operation is still in the hands of the family. The Illawarra Meat Company currently operates a modern factory at Fairy Meadow.⁶ The meatworks at Yallah closed due to encroaching suburbia in 1987.⁷ No abattoirs currently operate in the City of Wollongong.

Though metal manufacturing tended to dominate the workforce and skyline of Illawarra, the district was also notable for employing large numbers of women often from a migrant background producing clothing and associated goods. During World War Two, women entered the engineering and manufacturing industry in some number though they were relegated to less demanding roles after the war.⁸ Afterwards, they took up jobs in the clothing industries set up in the area. In June 1945, the Helensburgh Manufacturing Co was established to produce clothing.⁹ A rayon mill was opened at Bulli in 1951 by John Vicars & Co, which became Bulli

¹ Hagan & Wells, p 73

² Hagan & Wells, p 77

³ S Garton, 'E Street (1891-1975)', *ADB*, Supplement 1580-1980, Melbourne University Press, Melbourne, 2005, pp 371-2

⁴ A Gibbs & C Warne, *Wollongong: A Pictorial History*, Kingsclear, 1995, p 120-1

⁵ See, for example, N Postiglione, '“It was just horrible” The food experience of immigrants in 1950s Australia', *History Australia*, 7, 1, 2010, p 09.3 – 09.5

⁶ Based on 'The Illawarra Meat Company: Outline History' by Richard Dallison Hutton, supplied by Meredith Hutton, 21 July 2010

⁷ Secomb, Dapto, np

⁸ Hagan & Wells, p 66-7

⁹ Bayley, *Bulli*, p 76

Spinners Pty Ltd in 1955.¹ By 1955, the first two bays of the Crystal Clothing factory at Marshall Street, Dapto were operating.²

Clothing and textile factories that opened and later employed large numbers of migrant women included L E Isaacs Ltd opened in September 1943, later situated in Gladstone Avenue. Silknit and Champion Knitting Mills Pty Ltd in Keira Street had also opened by 1943. Berlei opened on 27 September 1945 followed in 1946 by Duncan and Sons in Keira and Burelli Streets. The largest manufacturers of men's shirts is Australia, the Crystal Shirt Manufacturing Company opened its purpose built factory in Ellen Street in February 1948 with another factory opening at Marshall Street, Dapto in 1953. King Gee opened at Corrimal in 1952.³ By the 1960s, policies promoting regional development ensured there were more jobs for women largely in clothing and textiles, but the reduction of tariffs from 1973 onwards had a negative impact on them. By the 1990s, only King Gee and Bulli Spinners were still operating.⁴

By 1961, industries near Dapto included Monier Pipe Works at Kembla Grange, plus Hancock's Skin Driers at Yallah, Rubber Roller industries near Dapto. A large area of 2,000 acres was zoned for light and special industry in 1962 plus an area stretching from Kembla Grange to Mullet Creek, owned by AIS, set aside for heavy industry.⁵

Secondary themes

Processing animal products

Processing agricultural products

Milling timber

Building and operating harbour facilities

Operating private railways

Constructing public works

Building ships and boats

Distilling kerosene (Site of former Pioneer Kerosene Works, Between American Creek & Cordeaux Road, Mount Kembla)

Making steel (AIS steelworks)

Smelting non-ferrous metals (Former Dapto smelter, Kanahooka Road, Kanahooka)

¹ Bayley, *Bulli*, p 85

² Secomb, Dapto, np

³ L Thom, 'The Places Migrant Women found Work in Wollongong 1943-1990', Wollongong's Migrant Heritage Places Study 2007, p 3-7

⁴ Hagan & Wells, p 77

⁵ Secomb, Dapto, np

Turning metals into semi-finished or finished products (Metal Manufacturers works, Port Kembla)

Refining salt (Saltworks site, North Beach, Wollongong)

Producing dairy products

Celebrating work

1.4.5 Theme - Uniting to protect working conditions

A tradition of militant and strong trade unions developed in Illawarra due to the heavy use of wage labour in coalmines, the poor working and living conditions and the management style of mine owners.¹ By the late nineteenth century, most of the mine owners were not residents of Illawarra. Working conditions did not concern them. The Byrnes family associated with the Mount Pleasant mine were based in Parramatta whilst Ebenezer Vickery of the Mount Kembla Coal and Oil Co and the Coal Cliff Coal Co was based at Waverley near Sydney.

What eventually became a strong union movement in Illawarra commenced with the concern by workers to ensure security of income when out of work or in case of accident. The tradition of friendly societies or workers' benefit societies that would support them in time of illness, accident or unemployment had a long tradition going back to England and Scotland. Those who had come there to work brought those traditions to Illawarra. The Illawarra Miners' Protective Association commenced as a benefit society in 1878 as the first stage of burgeoning trade unionism, but collapsed about 1879. Miners' lodges joined the Coal Miners' Mutual Protective Association in 1885 but it collapsed in the 1890s depression.²

Trade unionism revived in the early 1900s when Dapto smelter workers formed one of the earliest trade unions in Illawarra.³ In 1902, the Illawarra Colliery Employees' Association was registered under the new Arbitration Act.⁴ The recommendations of the Royal Commission into the Mount Kembla mining disaster were soon a dead letter. Few recommendations were put into effect. There was little in the way of significant legislation to make mines safer and mine owners and operators were too uninterested to change practices.⁵ Remedies lay in the hands of the mineworkers. Like other wage earners they had suffered considerably during the depressed 1890s when work was short and times were hard. Unions emerged as the creation of trade unions was permitted by legislation. As their demands were not met, militancy grew. The Labor governments received early support from Illawarra. In May 1891, miners at Mount Keira established a Labor Electoral League in response to calls from the NSW

¹ Hagan & Wells, p 81

² Hagan & Wells, p 82

³ Hagan & Wells, p 83

⁴ Hagan & Wells, p 84

⁵ S Piggin & H Lee, *The Mt Kembla Disaster*, Oxford University Press, Melbourne, 1992, p 230-5

Trades and Labour Council. From 1891 to 1950, all the electorates that included the Illawarra coalfields sent Labor representatives to the NSW Parliament.¹

Mining unions and the unions which emerged from the metal working industries continued to press for better working conditions and defended their members from wage reductions but were less successful in opposing workforce reductions when the steelworks and coal mines rationalised after the 1970s.

Union solidarity and awareness of matters wider than their immediate working conditions was a crucial factor in the refusal of waterside workers at Port Kembla to load Australian pig iron for Japan in 1938. This dispute, named after the name of the ship, the *Dalfram*, was an attempt to prevent strategic materials and those useful in war being sent to Japan which was then fighting a war of conquest in China. It was a landmark in the Australian trade union tradition and signified that trade unions were less optimistic about the ambitions of the fascist powers in Europe and the imperial ambitions of Japan than the commercial middle class.

Miners not only joined their unions but they formed the bulk of members of the local Labor Party branches. In July 1949, the Miners' Federation with Communist leaders called a strike in Illawarra coalmines in defiance of the Federal Labor Government. The NSW Labor Party was opposed to the strike as was the Federal Labor party. Troops were sent into the mines.² These events seemed to confirm that the Communist Party was using the labour movement and the Labor Party as a front to take over the nation. The subsequent election of the Menzies Liberal–National coalition government at the federal level in 1949 benefited from that perception. It also inaugurated decades of Liberal–National party rule.

Today, the State and Federal parliamentary seats for Illawarra remain safe Labor seats.

Secondary themes

Uniting to defend and improve working conditions

Expressing union solidarity

Changing society through direct action

Creating facilities for workers (Miners' club room, Cordeaux Road, Kembla Heights)

Enduring unemployment

¹ H Lee and J Hagan, 'The Illawarra', in J Hagan (ed), *People and Politics in Regional New South Wales*, Volume 1, Federation Press, Annandale, 2006, p 94

² H Lee and J Hagan, 'The Illawarra', p 99

1.5 Contextual Essay - Housing and Accommodation

1.5.1 Theme – Rural housing

The need to put a roof over their heads was met by the earliest settlers by erecting temporary huts or shelters. Since many grants were only occupied by the convict employees of the landowners who lived in Sydney, crude accommodation was all that was built originally. Many early houses of the Illawarra were built of rough slab or timber construction. But some landowners settled in the area. Initially they built barely adequate houses. Later they started to extend them or replace them with more handsome accommodation. Most houses in rural areas in 1841 were of timber (89.9%), but even allowing for a further category of ‘Wood and bark’ (2.1%); many of the timber houses would have been of rough slab construction.¹

Early graziers and farmers tended to favour elevated sites on spurs or ridges, usually near sources of fresh water. By surrounding their homes with gardens of exotic plants and landmark trees such as Bunya pines, Moreton Bay figs, palms and cypress trees, they created a distinctive impression on the landscape.² One example is Marshall Mount.

Henry Osborne received authority to settle and took up occupation of land in parish Calderwood, which he named Marshall Mount after the maiden name of his wife. He built his first house in 1829 as a single storey timber dwelling, ‘Pumpkin Cottage’ seen in a painting by surveyor Robert Hoddle. In 1839, he commenced a two storey stone and brick building, which was widely regarded as one of the best in Illawarra. There was also a 6-acre orchard and vineyards, with ornamental plantings of English trees.³

¹ K & T Henderson, *Early Illawarra - People, houses, life*, History Project Inc, Canberra, 1983, p 56

² Illawarra Escarpment Heritage Assessment 2007, Mayne-Wilson & Associates and Heritage Futures in association with Godden Mackay Logan, For Wollongong City Council, Part II – Thematic Essay – Theme 2, p 2

³ Jervis, ‘Illawarra’, p 149-50



Figure 18 Henry Osborne's 'Pumpkin Cottage' in 1830. Source: R Hoddle, Pumpkin Cottage, ML, SV 1B/IIa/2

William Francis Weston received a promise of a large grant of 500 acres in 1818, which was not formally granted until 1842. A house was built on the land in the 1840s. In 1843, it became the home of Andrew Thompson when he married Weston's daughter Elizabeth. Additional outbuildings were also erected. It survives to the present day.

The government provided huts for veterans on ten lots at Dapto Creek in 1829 (portions 9-10, 27-8, 31-3, 33-7, Parish of Kembla).¹ The huts were reported to have two rooms with glass windows with weatherboard fronts and the backs of slab construction.²

Small settlers also built accommodation, though, in many cases, it is likely more substantial houses had to wait until they acquired the freehold of their land. When large grants that had been leased to tenant farmers were finally sold off in freehold, many of the subdivision plans showed cottages previously occupied by the tenants. The standard of these dwellings and outbuildings is not known. An old timber homestead 'Stream Hill Homestead' survived at Sheaffes Road, West Dapto, on one of the original veteran grants. It was on a property used for many years as a dairy farm. An old slab hut of indeterminate age also survives at the end of Reddalls Road, Kembla Grange.

¹ Jervis, 'Illawarra', p 87

² Secomb, Dapto, np

Secondary themes

Providing temporary shelter

Using available materials such as cabbage tree palms or timber slabs (“Lindbrook”, South Avondale Road)

Sheltering the settler (Slab hut, Reddalls Road, Kembla Grange; Glengarry Cottage, West Dapto))

Building homesteads (Horsley; Marshall Mount)

Creating domestic gardens and landscapes (Marshall Mount)

1.5.2 Theme - Housing in villages and suburbs

Construction of houses in urban areas followed a similar pattern of basic buildings followed by more substantial ones but Wollongong as the district centre was not as crudely housed as many rural residents. Though not strictly in the town of Wollongong Charles Throsby Smith's house was an interesting example. On 23 February 1829, when he applied for an additional grant, Smith stated that he had 300 acres, 6 horses and 86 cattle plus ‘A Barn & Stabling 120£. Dwelling House & Kitchen 150£. Servants’ Dwelling 45£. [sic]’ He also had 3.5 miles of fence and employed 3 convict and 3 free servants.¹ In 1841, there were as many brick houses in Wollongong as timber ones (43.4% brick versus 44.2% timber).² By 1871, 36.5% of Wollongong’s houses (84) were of brick or stone, whilst timber houses accounted for 61.3% (141) of the total of 230 occupied houses along with another 50 unoccupied.³

After a series of public meetings in 1880 to establish a building society, the Illawarra Mutual Building Society was officially formed on 6 April 1880.⁴ It is unclear how effective it was in assisting people to own their own homes at a time when private lenders dominated the mortgage market. Home ownership was also important for miners. In 1887, when signatures were being collected for a petition calling for a public school at Balgownie, out of 26 signatures collected, a total of 20 owned their homes.⁵

Whilst Wollongong had a formal layout with lots for building either on Crown allotments or those provided by further subdivision of Crown lots, the rest of the area was dominated by large area rural grants. A process of subdivision into smaller rural lots followed by subdivision into residential lots was necessary to enable householders to then buy and build. Miners appear to have lived in rented houses on coal mines provided by mine owners or camped nearby in rough accommodation in the early stages of mine development. For example, when the Bellambi and Woonona

¹ 29/1688, Col Sec re Land, Charles Throsby Smith file, SRNSW 2/7972

² K & T Henderson, *Early Illawarra - People, houses, life*, History Project Inc, Canberra, 1983, p 56

³ Census, 1871, p xlviii

⁴ *Illawarra Mutual Building Society Centenary 1880-1980 - A Tribute to Illawarra*, Wollongong 1980, p 9

⁵ *Balgownie School Centenary*, p 4

Coal Mines were advertised for sale in November 1863, there were also fifteen miners' cottages let at 10 shillings per week on the land.¹ The subdivision of land near the mines to create villages such as Woonona, Bulli and Corrimal, enabled miners to move out of such accommodation controlled by mine owners to houses built in these estates either by house letting landlords or to cottages they were buying and building themselves. Distinct clusters of mining cottages in small villages arose around every mine, e.g. Kembla Heights near the Mount Kembla mine. There does not appear to have been any research conducted into this process to provide further detail of the actual sequence of events. The 1921 census was the first to provide data about housing tenure. It showed that in all areas of what became the City of Wollongong the owner occupied 3 houses out of every 10, whilst another 1 to 2 houses out of every 10 were being purchased, and that 6 out of every 10 were tenanted.

Housing Tenure 1921

Municipality or Shire	Owner	Rent Purchaser	Tenant	Other	Total
Bulli	871 (30.9%)	300 (10.7%)	1546 (55%)	93 (3.3%)	2810
Illawarra Central	375 (32.4%)	93 (8.0%)	649 (56.1%)	39 (3.3%)	1156
Illawarra North	419 (33.1%)	205 (16.2%)	604 (47.7%)	39 (3.1%)	1267
Wollongong	432 (32%)	146 (10.8%)	696 (51.6%)	74 (5.5%)	1348

Source: 1921 Census, p 1529-31

Builders emerged to provide the houses and some architects also set up business though their practices usually catered for upmarket housing and public buildings rather than the usual run of small cottages. The 1902 *Illawarra Guide* listed the following builders:

Helensburgh – T J Barnaby, George Ricketts, W Stronach;

Corrimal – J Anderson, Robert Anderson, Ed Sweeney;

Wollongong – J Farquharson, A Harris, George Halpin, Evan Jones, W Moss, A Murray, James Orphin, H Parsons, W G Stewart;

Dapto – John Abbott, T Gillard, W Hervey, G Mansfield, Edward Simpson.

The sole architect listed is T Gillard at Dapto, who appears to be the builder of the same name.²

Many buyers of lots in the northern beachside villages did not settle there but used their land to build weekend cottages. Henry Halloran auctioned Stanwell Park on 27 January 1908. In March 1913, he had to supply a list of buyers and occupiers names to the Land Titles Office since he was claiming ownership of the minerals under the land as part of his title. Most of the lots he had sold were still vacant though there were a few that were occupied by owners living at Stanwell Park. Amongst the

¹ Jervis, 'Illawarra', p 290: RPA 3015 shows that Thomas Hale had purchased most of these lands and only sold them after his bankruptcy.

² *Illawarra and South Coast Tourist's Guide*, 1902-3, Wilson & Co, Sydney, 1902, p 16, 32, 42, 52. Please note there are doubts about the accuracy of the data in this publication.

‘occupiers’ were a number of names whose addresses were given as places such as Burwood, Turrumurra and Leichhardt, most likely those who had erected weekenders on their lots.¹

They had a number of cheap alternatives for their weekenders. Timber firms producing ready-cut or pre-fabricated cottages catered for the demand for inexpensive cottages suitable for erection as weekenders. Pre-fabricated cottages were an easy option for builders and homebuyers. Two of the more notable companies of the 1900s were Saxton and Binns, later A C Saxton and Sons, and George Hudson & Son Ltd. Both firms actively promoted their prefabricated cottages. Saxton and Binns catalogue of February 1905 stated that could supply weatherboard cottages of all descriptions, which may be erected by ‘any inexperienced persons’.² The 1914 catalogue of pre-fabricated cottages issued by George Hudson and Son showed a number of buildings that were recommended as week-end or holiday cottages.³

As large volume producers of pre-fabricated buildings, Hudson’s supplied accommodation for large public works or mining projects. With an excellent rail connection with Sydney, it is likely that many of these cottages were sold in Illawarra and some historical images seem to bear this out. More research would be needed to confirm this. The simple form of many miners’ cottages in the area suggests that some of them, at least, would have been pre-fabricated buildings as well as some rural residences. In 1927, for example, Robert and Honorah Walker erected a Hudson’s kit home on their land on the Cordeaux River.⁴

The overall trend of building activity appears to have been similar to that of the rest of the state. Building proceeded rapidly in the 1920s. Residents were buying their cottages or building new ones to house themselves. For example, on the south side of Pope’s Lane, Woonona, in 1925, most of the weatherboard 4-roomed cottages were occupied by their owners. John Reeve’s estate in Pope’s Lane had been subdivided after his death. By June 1926, four owner-occupied weatherboard cottages plus one vacant lot occupied the five lots created by that subdivision.⁵ The number of building applications declined sharply between 1929 (98 for Central Illawarra and 279 for Wollongong) and 1930 (51 for Central Illawarra and 72 for Wollongong) due to the impact of the Great Depression. By the late 1930s, building was again active (345 for Central Illawarra and 277 for Wollongong). (See Section 5.0) Between 1934 and 1939, there was major growth in number of houses in the Central Illawarra municipality.⁶

The huge increase in demand for workers for Port Kembla and associated areas in the 1930s meant that a large number of bag and tin humpies emerged in the district.⁷ The 1933 census showed that over 2,000 households were living in tents around the area.⁸ Another outcome was the Depression era shacks built at Little Garie, Burning Palms,

¹ Statutory Declaration, H F Halloran, 11 March 1913, in RPA Packet 18188, NRS 17513, SRNSW

² Saxton & Binns Ltd, *Prices Current*, Feb 1905

³ George Hudson and Son Ltd, *Machine Made Cottages: Some of the Designs*, Sydney, 1914

⁴ J L McNamara (edited J L Herben), *Life at Cordeaux River New South Wales*, Cordeaux, 2000, p 81

⁵ Valuer-General, Valuation Cards, Bulli C Ward, Popes Lane, Nos 1531-1542; 2260-2264, SRNSW 13/7524

⁶ Secomb, Dapto, np

⁷ Secomb, Dapto, np

⁸ Rogers, ‘Thematic History’, p 55

Bulgo and North and South Era beaches in the Royal National Park. The shack community at Bulgo had extensive ties with families in the Helensburgh community as far back to the 1890s.¹ At Wollongong and Port Kembla, rough shacks in camps for the unemployed housed those unable to find accommodation. One of these was in 'Happy Valley' at the southern end of Keira Street in Wollongong with as many as 100 shacks near swampy land and the rubbish tip.² Before World War Two, an Aboriginal camp set up at Hill 60 provided them with accommodation.

To enable the unemployed to acquire their own homes, the state government formed the Homes for the Unemployed Trust to build cottages to minimum standards for sale to the unemployed or to supply building materials to allow them to build their own homes, usually on allotments already owned by the recipient or family members. In 1936, cottages cost £250 to £275 to build and were sold on terms at six shillings per week.³ However, only 27 were erected in the Wollongong district.⁴

Another state government initiative occurred in 1938 when the Department of Works and Housing erected houses at Wattle Street, Warrawong, known as the Temporary Settlement for the unemployed. It was widely criticised and was soon named 'Spoonerville' after the responsible minister E S Spooner.⁵ Improvements were made after protests about their condition and by July 1939, the 65 cottages and 20 barracks for single men were occupied.⁶ Due to its low-lying site 'Spoonerville' had a high rate of disease.⁷ Wollongong Council controlled the official camp for unemployed at Coomaditchy Lagoon.⁸

For those in employment with the possibility of buying their homes, the cost of mortgage finance had long been a problem. However, legislation was passed to ease the path to homeownership by providing for the establishment of carefully controlled co-operative building societies. They were based on the same mutual principle miners were familiar with from their co-operative stores. These co-operative building societies did not operate to make a profit. They not only assisted the achievement of homeownership by many people but also boosted economic recovery. In June 1936, a meeting was held to form the Port Kembla Co-operative Building Society. Coincidentally, the very first co-operative building society formed under the new scheme happened to be the Port Kembla Co-operative Building Society registered on 11 September 1936.⁹ By 1939, there were five co-operative building societies at Port Kembla, which had financed 721 houses by 1941.¹⁰ By November 1937, there was also the South Coast Co-operative Building Society Ltd with its office in 185 Crown Street, Wollongong.¹¹

¹ e-mail, John Arney to PCC, 31 May 2010; e-mail, Helen Voysey to PCC, 29 May 2010

² C Herben, 'Happy Valley – Keira Street' *Illawarra Historical Society Newsletter*, Nov-Dec 2002, p 71

³ 'Homes for the Unemployed Trust - Annual Report, 1937', *NSWPP*, 1938-40, VIII, p 21

⁴ Richardson, *Bitter Years*, p 141

⁵ Eklund, *Steel Town*, p 30

⁶ Richardson, *Bitter Years*, p 148

⁷ Hagan & Wells, p 200

⁸ Eklund, *Steel Town*, p 30

⁹ S M Withycombe, *A Home of Our Own - Half a Century of Co-operative Housing 1937-1987*, 1987, p 16

¹⁰ Richardson, *Bitter Years*, p 142

¹¹ *Co-operative Building Societies Gazette*, 18 Nov 1937, p 65

Censuses demonstrate the usual representation of types of buildings seen in NSW was also evident in Greater Wollongong. Timber was the most prominent wall material before the 1950s with a smaller number of brick houses. In the 1950s, fibro then took over as the principal cladding. Nevertheless, it is notable that there were a number of iron walled houses in areas such as Central Illawarra in 1933, possibly due to the booming demand for accommodation at Port Kembla. Until 1947, there was also a considerable number of iron walled houses in Bulli Shire, possibly a result of the provision of cheaper accommodation for miners at a more basic level (4.9% in 1921; 6.9% in 1933; and 5.3% in 1947. In contrast, in 1947, iron walled houses were 3.7% in Central Illawarra and 0.8% in Illawarra North).



Figure 19 A cottage at Bellambi destroyed by a windstorm in 1924. Note that it is of corrugated iron construction. Source: Illawarra Images, No P05/P05576

Building Materials of Walls - Municipality of Wollongong

Wollongong	1891	1901	1911	1921	1933	1947
Brick or stone						
Stone	11	13		9	15	23
Brick	161	178		176	356	969
Concrete, adobe, pise	2	2		6	18	21
Metal	3	1		10	29	13
WB slab or inferior	472	446		1098	2029	3231
Sundried Bricks						1
Pise						
Lath, Wattle, Mud	1	2		3	1	1
Fibro				3	28	216
Rooms						
Tents		25		38	37	7

Wollongong	1891	1901	1911	1921	1933	1947
Drays						
Ships						
Other		13				1
Unknown	4			5	3	7
Total dwellings	654	680	939	1348	2516	4490

Building Materials of Walls - Municipality of Illawarra Central

Illawarra Central	1891	1901	1911	1921	1933	1947
Brick or stone						
Stone	4	10		9	12	11
Brick	38	41		45	176	646
Concrete, adobe, pise				6	33	45
Metal	14	44		46	142	138
WB slab or inferior	589	668		1023	1372	2267
Sundried Bricks					1	2
Pise						1
Lath, Wattle, Mud	5	9		5	9	2
Fibro				4	62	560
Rooms						
Tents	41	167		12	314	14
Drays						
Ships						
Other		28		5	7	13
Unknown	8			1	1	16
Total dwellings	699	967	1043	1156	2131	3715

Building Materials of Walls - Municipality of Illawarra North

Illawarra North	1891	1901	1911	1921	1933	1947
Brick or stone						
Stone	5	7		5	9	9
Brick	25	34		58	75	184
Concrete, adobe, pise	1	1		1	5	5
Metal	14	18		10	15	25
WB slab or inferior	492	560		1187	1591	2229
Sundried Bricks						1
Pise						
Lath, Wattle, Mud	3	1		2	1	
Fibro				3	38	487
Rooms						
Tents	88	15		1	72	8
Drays						
Ships						
Other		6			1	
Unknown	6				2	3
Total dwellings	634	642	1058	1267	1809	2951

Building Materials of Walls – Bulli Shire

Bulli	1901	1911	1921	1933	1947
Brick or stone					
Stone			21	29	26
Brick			143	178	268
Concrete, adobe, pise			7	16	22
Metal			138	243	236
WB slab or inferior			2373	2781	3218
Sundried Bricks					
Pise					
Lath, Wattle, Mud			16	2	
Fibro			42	130	617
Rooms					
Tents			57	120	29
Drays					
Ships					
Other			8		1
Unknown			5	9	6
Total dwellings		2081	2810	3508	4423

From 1949 to 1975, an influx of migrants ensured that Wollongong trebled in population and became the third largest urban centre in NSW.¹ Since much of the post-war employment was tied to the steelworks there was huge demand for residential land near the works, at Port Kembla, Warrawong, Cringila, Berkeley and Unanderra. The open spaces between the separate coal and rural villages started to fill up as well.² This permitted the land speculatively subdivided from 1910 to 1939 to be finally built upon. Between 1948 and 1955, residential development finally linked Brownsville with Dapto.³

Migrants did not construct a distinctly ‘migrant’ type of accommodation.⁴ Yet, there are places associated with them that mirror their distinctive housing experience. These include hostels and boarding houses specially conducted for them, often privately run. The first homes of many migrants also reflect their experience. Some of these were tents and huts and others were partially built houses, garages or houses that had been imported as pre-fabricated kit homes. The earliest group of ‘displaced persons’ or refugees was housed at the Unanderra hostel in September 1949. The Berkeley hostel was mainly used to house British migrants. Some migrants conducted private boarding houses to accommodate others of their ethnic group. They included the boarding house conducted by Mystica Filippi at Hoskins Street (now Merrett Street) Cringila for Italian men plus one at 12 Kembla Street, Port Kembla run by Kole Savkulov for Macedonian men.⁵

¹ Rogers, ‘Thematic History’, p 57

² Rogers, ‘Thematic History’, p 60

³ Secomb, Dapto, np

⁴ L Thom, M Walker & G Cummins, Wollongong’s Migrant Heritage Places Study 2007, p 3

⁵ M Walker, ‘First accommodation for Migrants arriving in Wollongong post World War 2’, Wollongong’s Migrant Heritage Places Study 2007, p 9-10, 19, 21

BHP provided a migrant hostel at Port Kembla next to the steelworks, which operated from 1948 to 1975 housing up to 500 men, mostly from Yugoslavia.¹ Other hostels operated at Fairy Meadow, Balgownie, Berkeley and Unanderra.²

The need to overcome the housing shortage that had arisen in the depressed 1930s and during the war years was the impetus for some unusual expedients. In 1946, the NSW Housing Commission erected converted military huts in Baan Baa Street, Dapto near Mulda Street. In 1951-2, the Commonwealth Government built 156 Swedish pre-fabricated timber houses to accommodate British miners and steelworkers on Yalunga Street, Dapto soon known as 'Pommy Hill'.³ Similar estates were built at Stratford Road, Unanderra and Benelong Street, Bulli.⁴ They appear to have been part of a contract awarded to K Rice Constructions, 62-4 Latrobe Rd, Morwell, for the erection of 300 pre-cut houses and associated works on the South Coast Coalfields of NSW.⁵ The group at Yalunga Street, Dapto was aimed at housing British coal miners.⁶ It seems that the cottages at Dapto and Unanderra were pre-fabricated by Åmåls Sågverks Aktiebolag (ASA) in Sweden. The form and layout of the cottages at Dapto are similar to cottages built by that firm and do not follow the pattern of other Swedish cottages bought by the Commonwealth Government. The Commonwealth Government had operated emergency housing at Helensburgh in Nissen huts but a proposal to sell them in 1961, met opposition and resulted in their replacement by new cottages.⁷

¹ I Pratt, *Production, distribution and consumption of housing*, p 77

² Hagan & Wells, p 209

³ Secomb, Dapto, np

⁴ R Irving, *Twentieth Century Architecture in Wollongong*, Wollongong City Council, Wollongong, 2001, p 96

⁵ *Commonwealth Government Gazette*, 2 Aug 1951, p 1986

⁶ M Walker, 'First accommodation for Migrants arriving in Wollongong post World War 2', *Wollongong's Migrant Heritage Places Study* 2007, p 33

⁷ Bayley, *Bulli*, p 93



Figure 20 Commonwealth houses at Dapto, 1951. Source: Illawarra Images, No P18/P18221

The NSW Housing Commission began erecting houses for some of those who had been living in humpies.¹ In 1949, the Housing Commission erected the first houses in the Bulli area in Farrell Road between the sea and the railway.² Before 1950, Housing Commission activity was largely at Port Kembla but in the early 1950s, its major activities extended to Bulli, Corrimal, Gwynneville, Reidtown, Unanderra and Woonona. In the late 1950s, its main activity was in Berkeley, Corrimal, and Unanderra. In the period 1960-64, Berkeley received the bulk of Housing Commission dwellings followed by Warilla, but their position was reversed in the late 1960s when Warilla received the bulk of dwellings.³ The steel firm of AIS successfully persuaded the state government to erect more public housing near the steelworks than was warranted by demand and the proportion of population to ensure accommodation for its workforce. This favoritism was rationalised by the community benefit of promoting industrial development.⁴ Up to 1968, the Housing Commission erected 211 cottages at Bulli, 301 at Woonona (mainly at Woonona East), 117 at Bellambi and 41 at Helensburgh.⁵ From 1945 to 1971, the Housing Commission built 906 houses in Dapto area and in 1970-1 it built 762 houses at Koonawarra.⁶ From 1945 until 1978, the largest numbers of public housing completed by the Housing Commission were in Warilla (2,151), Berkeley (1,789) and Koonawarra (1,309).⁷

¹ Secomb, Dapto, np

² Bayley, *Bulli*, p 81

³ Robinson, *Urban Illawarra*, p 23

⁴ I Pratt, *The production, distribution and consumption of housing in Wollongong, NSW*, Planning Research Centre, University of Sydney, Sydney, 1982, p 78

⁵ Bayley, *Bulli*, p 93

⁶ Secomb, Dapto, np

⁷ I Pratt, *Production, distribution and consumption of housing*, p 63

Private subdividers and developers were also active. By this time, estate developers, which took the whole process from the acquisition of land en globo to the construction and sale of houses, was evident. In 1955, Taylor and Woodrow Pty Ltd subdivided a large area east of Dapto and south of Fowler Road, offering house and land packages in a scheme to sell 1,100 houses. By the late 1950s, the scheme had grown to 1,600 houses and included the Macdonohue Estate subdivided in 1959. From 1957 to 1963, Dapto had the highest ratio of subdivision to suburb size next to Albion Park.¹

Development of land at the Kanahooka Point Estate on the shore of Lake Illawarra commenced in 1961 becoming the fastest growing area at Dapto by the early 1970s with over 500 houses by 1974. Willmore and Randell built the first 50 houses.² After buying 300 acres in 1961, Willmore and Randell subdivided Kanahooka in two parts as Kanahooka Point Estate on the waterfront bought from the Webb family and the rest as Kanahooka Heights. To obtain Council approval for the estate, the firm also provided small parks and built a new clubhouse for the Yacht club, an A-frame building for \$30,000.³ The first new houses at Kanahooka were almost complete in 1962. The Electricity Commission also built houses near Tallawarra power station for its staff. In the mid 1960s, the Lakelands housing estate was completed with 216 new houses, which filled in the area between Dapto and the Lake.⁴

The 1968 Illawarra Planning Scheme zoned residential areas around all towns and villages. Until then, most residential development had been in Wollongong and the northern towns but that scheme directed development to the south-west. From the 1970s onwards, the main area for residential development at Dapto has been West Dapto.⁵

Subdivision of Forest Grove at Kanahooka in 1993 was based on the erection of houses built at a site at Rhondanella, Kembla Grange that were assembled on residential lots as a way of providing attractive low cost housing. In July 1994, Taylor-Woodrow, a large company, announced that it would be releasing lots at the Highcroft Estate on Bong Bong Road which totalled about half the lots in the 1,400 lot Horsley Estate.⁶

The first application for a purpose-built flat building was made in 1929 in Wollongong with a renewed surge in applications in the late 1930s starting with applications for eight blocks of flats in 1935.⁷ The original flat block may be 'Epping Court' at the corner of Gipps and Corrimall Streets, Wollongong whilst 'California' 7-9 Burelli Street, Wollongong, may be one of the 1935 batch of flats.⁸ A further surge of applications followed after the war rising to applications for 11 new blocks of flats

¹ Secomb, Dapto, np

² Secomb, Dapto, np

³ I Willmore and E Warburton, *Willmore and Randell: Seventy Years in Australian Real Estate 1922-1992*, Willmore and Randell Sales Pty Ltd, Sydney, 1994, p 92-4

⁴ Secomb, Dapto, np

⁵ Secomb, Dapto, np

⁶ Secomb, Dapto, np

⁷ *Statistical Register of New South Wales*, 1929, p 454; 1935, p 314

⁸ R Irving, *Twentieth Century Architecture in Wollongong*, Wollongong City Council, Wollongong, 2001, p 59, 65

in 1955.¹ During the 1960s, flat development accelerated especially with redevelopment of sites in the older areas but then decreased markedly in the mid 1970s.² Though construction of houses on vacant sites had long bypassed Wollongong, by the 1980s, demand for accommodation in the centre of Wollongong was fuelling high-rise development.³

Secondary themes

Providing accommodation for managers and professionals ('Gleniffer Brae', Wollongong Botanic Gardens, Off Murphy's Avenue, Gwynneville)

Housing the worker (33 Smith Street, Wollongong; 73-75 Campbell Street, Wollongong)

Using available materials

Accommodating public servants (Station Master's Residence, Dapto Railway Station)

Using pre-fabricated buildings

Occupying accommodation provided by employers (Company houses, 4-10 Junction Street, Helensburgh; Miners' cottages, Kembla Heights)

Increasing home ownership

Living in temporary accommodation when unemployed (Shacks, Bulgo, Royal National Park)

Living in temporary accommodation due to housing shortages

Living in hostels (Former Balgownie Migrant Hostel)

Living in housing units (Epping Court Flats, Gipps & Corrimal Streets, Wollongong; 'California' 7-9 Burelli Street, Wollongong)

Redeeming a debt to war veterans

Applying craft skills (Shops, 135-145 Keira Street, Wollongong)

Supplying building materials

Accommodating group communities

¹ *Statistical Register of New South Wales*, 1955, p 412

² I Pratt, *Production, distribution and consumption of housing*, p 29

³ Rogers, 'Thematic History', p 65

Responding to need

Creating domestic gardens and landscapes (“Gleniffer Brae”,
Wollongong Botanic Gardens, Off Murphy’s Avenue,
Gwynneville)

1.6 Contextual Essay - Servicing the Community

1.6.1 Transport - sea, road, rail and air

1.6.1.1 Theme – Providing transport by sea

By 1826, Wollongong Harbour was one of the main cedar shipping ports of Illawarra but the trade slipped away as readily accessible cedar was cut out. Construction of a basin with a pier commenced in 18 December 1837 using convict labour housed in a stockade on Wollongong Head, later known as Flagstaff Hill or Signal Hill.¹ A pilot was appointed.²

The Kiama Steam Navigation Co was formed in 1852. In 1857, it amalgamated with other firms to form the Illawarra Steam Navigation Co, which lasted until 1948.³ It was the main shipping company serving the coast for many years, though many coalmine owners also bought their own vessels to take coal to market.

A second loading slip was erected at the Harbour in August 1861. A new mooring chain was laid down in 1858. Work commenced in December 1860 and the deepening of the entrance with construction of a new stone barrier in accordance with the recommendation of E O Moriarty.⁴ Intensive lobbying by William Robson heading a local campaign to pressure the government to undertake improvement in the port at Wollongong had ensured the work was undertaken.⁵

Lady Belmore opened the newly completed harbour works at Belmore Basin on 8 October 1868. Three coal staiths were erected to handle coal shipping. Two coal handling steam cranes came into operation on 26 April 1880. A T-jetty was constructed in the outer harbour in 1880. In 1871, Joseph Mather of Sydney erected a prefabricated wrought iron harbour lighthouse at the end of the breakwater. It ensured safer conditions for working and approaching the harbour.⁶

Shipping continued from other jetties up and down the coast often constructed into the open sea with scant protection. For example, on 21 June 1867, the second Sandon Point pier at Bulli was swept away in heavy seas.⁷ Like other such jetties, it was rebuilt.

The colonial government created a semi-government authority called the Wollongong Harbour Trust in 1889 but it was taken over by the government in 1895 after the

¹ C W Gardiner-Garden, *Port of Wollongong*, Illawarra Historical Society, Wollongong, 1975, p 17-8

² Jervis, 'Illawarra', p 145

³ C W Gardiner-Garden, *Port of Wollongong*, p 21

⁴ C W Gardiner-Garden, *Port of Wollongong*, p 28

⁵ Hagan & Wells, p 38

⁶ A P, Fleming, *White Towers: The Illawarra Lighthouses*, Revised edition with additional material by Carol Herben, Illawarra Historical Society, Wollongong, 2001, p 8-9

⁷ Jervis, 'Illawarra', p 290

depression had undermined the Trust.¹ In 1893, the Wollongong Harbour Trust commenced a breakwater running north of the harbour but it was abandoned before it was complete and still remains.²

A rival private company, the Illawarra Harbour and Land Corporation with British capital, tried to develop Lake Illawarra with no success but it did erect a smelter at Dapto in 1895 to process ore for Broken Hill Pty Co.³ It undertook considerable work before abandoning it in 1892 leaving physical evidence on the landscape.⁴

The NSW government decided to build a deep-water harbour at Port Kembla in December 1898. The *Port Kembla Harbour Act*, 1898 (No 34) gave the colonial government the power to build the eastern breakwater at Port Kembla as well the necessary jetties and rail lines to make the port functional plus the power to resume the necessary land. An area of 496 acres 2 roods (201 ha) was acquired.⁵ Work commenced on constructing a new harbour at Port Kembla in 1900.⁶ The eastern breakwater was completed in 1908 at Port Kembla providing better loading facilities.⁷ The *Port Kembla (Northern Breakwater) Act*, 1912 (No 65) gave the government power to build the next stage of port improvements and to acquire land for that work and for industry.⁸ Work commenced on a northern breakwater of Port Kembla in 1912, which was completed in 1925.⁹ An ocean lighthouse was erected at Flagstaff Point in 1937 being put into operation on 23 July 1927. It became a fully automatic light in 1938.¹⁰ Construction of the inner harbour commenced at Port Kembla in 1956 and was opened in November 1960.¹¹

On 27 December 1963, the first coal export berth (No 1) in the newly completed Port Kembla Inner Harbour came into service.¹² A coal loader with a capacity of 500 tonnes per hour was completed at the AIS bulk wharf in 1967. A roll on-roll off berth built for Australian National Line was first used on 8 January 1971.¹³ Casting basins for the Sydney Harbour Tunnel were in operation in 1988 and operated until August 1990 when the last four units were completed.¹⁴ A grain-loading terminal was officially opened in 26 February 1990.¹⁵ In October 1996, two oil platforms were constructed at Port Kembla for Esso-BHP.¹⁶

¹ Hagan & Wells, p 46

² C W Gardiner-Garden, *Port of Wollongong*, p 47

³ Hagan & Wells, p 47

⁴ Rogers, 'Thematic History', p 33

⁵ D K Reynolds, *A history of the land purchased for the building of the Port Kembla steelworks*, BHP Flat Products, Port Kembla, 2001, p 7

⁶ Hagan & Wells, p 49

⁷ Secomb, Dapto, np

⁸ D K Reynolds, *A history of the land*, p 7

⁹ Rogers, 'Thematic History', p 50

¹⁰ A P Fleming, *White Towers: The Illawarra Lighthouses*, Revised edition with additional material by Carol Herben, Illawarra Historical Society, Wollongong, 2001, p 17

¹¹ W Hoogendoorn, *Roadstead to World Class Port: Celebrating the Port's Centenary of service to the Illawarra 1898-1998*, Port Kembla Port Corporation, Port Kembla, 1998, p 72

¹² Hoogendoorn, *Roadstead to World Class Port*, p 73

¹³ Hoogendoorn, *Roadstead to World Class Port*, p 76

¹⁴ Hoogendoorn, *Roadstead to World Class Port*, p 83

¹⁵ Ibid, p 80

¹⁶ Ibid, p 84

1.6.1.2 Theme – Providing transport by road

No easy road into Illawarra was ever found so that sea communication was always the major means of access. In 1821, Cornelius O'Brien found a route over Mount Nebo to Figtree and was able to attract private finance to build a poor and difficult road.¹ By 1828, it was sufficiently developed to allow carts a precarious descent.² Charles Throsby had earlier found a route through Macquarie Pass though it too was difficult. Robert Westmacott discovered an alternate route over the escarpment from Figtree over Mount Nebo to Appin.³

The road from Dapto to Berrima was described in 1843 by surveyor Burke as one of the few that could take anyone into Illawarra.⁴ By 1848, Rixon's Pass track was the preferred route. It had been opened to wheeled vehicles by 1858.⁵ There were two convict stockades, one sited at the Crossroads near Mount Keira and the other at Mullet Creek near Dapto in 1844 housing convicts employed in the road gangs.⁶ Wheeled vehicles were able to use the new Bulli Pass road in 1868.⁷

Within Illawarra, a system of local roads emerged. By the 1820s, the Bong Bong Road from Wollongong was extant with a line from Dapto to Bong Bong known as Alley's line surveyed in the 1840s. In the early 1830s, a road was extant from Brighton Beach, Wollongong to Dapto, which crossed Mullet Creek.⁸ Mitchell's Map of 1834 showed the road, which ran south down Illawarra plus other routes branching off it. The Bulli Parish Road was established from Wollongong to Bulli in 1846.⁹



Figure 21 Mitchell's 1834 map of the colony showed the line of the Bulli to Wollongong Road.

¹ Hagan & Wells, p 31

² Rogers, 'Thematic History', p 23

³ Hagan & Wells, p 31

⁴ Secomb, Dapto, np

⁵ Rogers, 'Thematic History', p 23

⁶ Hagan & Wells, p 220

⁷ Bayley, *Bulli*, p 25

⁸ Secomb, Dapto, np

⁹ Bayley, *Bulli*, p 8, 23 (R.27.1603, Crown Plan)

Construction of a road from Bulli to Coal Cliff and Stanwell Park was undertaken from 1879 to 1885.¹ A bridge across the entrance to Tom Thumb Lagoon in 1900 provided easier access between Wollongong and Port Kembla.² On 19 October 1920, the main highway which incorporates the north-south road was renamed Princes Highway.³ In April 1938, the bridge across the entrance to Lake Illawarra made a significant improvement to access from the south.⁴ It had been built with relief funds to provide work for the unemployed.⁵

The earliest motorbus service ran from Thirroul to Wollongong and Port Kembla in 1913.⁶ In 1923, the Dion family of Chinese origin commenced bus services running from Wollongong to Balgownie and Bellambi later extending routes to Austinmer and Kiama. They continue to run the bus services today for the Northern Suburbs of Wollongong.⁷

World War Two also resulted in significant road construction for strategic purposes. Wartime works completed by the Department of Main Roads included building the Mount Keira-Wilton Road (MR 502) to allow access from Picton and Menangle, where there were military camps, to Wollongong and Illawarra. The Mount Ousley Road was built as an alternative route to Bulli Pass and the Princes Highway.

Construction of the expressway made access by motor vehicle to Illawarra much better. Nevertheless, Bulli Pass remains as a major difficulty on the route. In 1982, the expressway was complete as far as Dapto.⁸ Despite the construction of better roads, the escarpment still presents a formidable obstacle. Even the improved roads can be difficult when combined with extreme weather conditions. Rock falls and landslips affect lesser roads at times. The most dramatic of these occurred recently when part of Lawrence Hargrave Drive had to be closed in August 2003 after major falls. The Sea Cliff Bridge between Coalcliff and Coledale reopened on 11 December 2005 partially solved the problem.

1.6.1.3 Theme - Providing rail transport

With poor road access and difficult shipping conditions there were many who sought to have a railway built to Illawarra. Finally in 1883, construction commenced.⁹ On 21 June 1887, the section from Clifton to Wollongong was opened.¹⁰ In November 1887,

¹ Bayley, *Bulli*, p 44

² Rogers, 'Thematic History', p 51

³ Bayley, *Bulli*, p 66

⁴ Rogers, 'Thematic History', p 55

⁵ L Richardson, *The Bitter Years - Wollongong during the Great Depression*, Hale & Iremonger, Sydney, 1984, p 153

⁶ Rogers, 'Thematic History', p 51

⁷ Hagan & Wells, p 207

⁸ Secomb, Dapto, np

⁹ Rogers, 'Thematic History', p 39

¹⁰ Bayley, *Bulli*, p 46

the section from Wollongong to Kiama opened.¹ The first through train from Sydney arrived on 17 September 1888.² It had been established as a single line service.

Siting of railway platforms was an important factor influencing the location of villages especially those housing coal miners serving mines. A number of mines had been opened up to use the railway to ship coal to market. The railway also caused extant commercial centres to shift to new locations such as Bulli, Dapto and Wollongong.

Difficulties with the tunnels north of Bulli affected some trains. Engines had problems when gradients caused them to lose traction. Smoke sometimes proved too much for the engine and/or passengers. On 30 May 1915, the deviation and duplication of the railway between Waterfall and Lilyvale opened. On 15 August 1915, the original platforms at Clifton and Scarborough were replaced by one midway between their sites. In 1920, the deviation and duplication of the line between Otford and Coal Cliff was put into service.³

With electrification of the railway line to Sydney in 1985, workers were able to commute to employment in the Sydney region.⁴ Though it meant a longer journey to work, it gave people the opportunity to live in Greater Wollongong where they might find accommodation more cheaply and still manage to remain employed once opportunities for work in the area had declined after the rationalisation of jobs in the steelworks and coalmines.

Secondary themes

Moving people and goods by ship (Belmore Basin, Wollongong)

Making sea transport safer (Lighthouse, Flagstaff Hill, Wollongong)

Shifting goods

Following Aboriginal pathways (Throsby's track)

Negotiating routes down the escarpment

Building government railways (Railway tunnels, Lilyvale siding)

Maintaining government railways

Moving coal in private tramways to railways (Bulli tramway bridge)

¹ Rogers, 'Thematic History', p 39

² Bayley, *Bulli*, p 48

³ Bayley, *Bulli*, p 65

⁴ Hagan & Wells, p 79

Using horse-drawn transport

Sheltering horses (Pit pony stables, Off Farmborough Road, Mount Kembla)

Building and maintaining roads

Using motorised transport

Providing garage, refueling and repair services for road vehicles

Improving road safety

1.6.2 Theme - Communicating

Postal services were available by 1838, when the post office shifted from the Wollongong magistrate's office to E Palmer's store.¹ The details of the opening of post offices are dealt with in the sections on the villages and suburbs. The telegraph line from Wollongong to Sydney commenced operation from a temporary station in August 1862.² In 1892, builders Banks and Whitehouse completed Wollongong Post Office in Crown Street to the design of Government Architect W L Vernon.

Thomas Garrett issued the first issue of the *Illawarra Mercury* on 8 October 1855.³ The *Illawarra Express* founded by Devlin and Sinclair followed in 1860. In 1863, the *Illawarra Banner* issued by William Bowe appeared though it was later renamed the *Wollongong Argus*. A different *Wollongong Argus* was started in 1879 but it became the *South Coast Times*.⁴

A telephone service commenced in Wollongong in 1904.⁵ Bulli commenced its telephone service in 1907.⁶

Secondary themes

Maintaining a postal network (Illawarra Historical Society Museum – Former Wollongong Post Office, Market Street; Postman's track between Lukin Street & Railway Station, Helensburgh)

Publishing and printing newspapers

Laying down telegraph communications

¹ Jervis, 'Illawarra', p 104

² Jervis, 'Illawarra', p 131

³ Jervis, 'Illawarra', p 147

⁴ Jervis, 'Illawarra', p 146

⁵ Rogers, 'Thematic History', p 51

⁶ Bayley, *Bulli*, p 72

Setting up a telephone network

Developing the internet

1.6.3 Theme – Providing utility services

A water supply was the first utility to be available at Wollongong. The original Wollongong water supply came from a lagoon near Market Square.¹ In rural areas, tanks and wells supplied water well into the twentieth century. Mines were also large users of water and built dams for their needs such as the Charlesworth Dam built for South Bulli Colliery.

In 1902-3, the Public Works Dept constructed a water supply scheme for Wollongong from Upper Cordeaux Dam No 1, holding 173 million gallons, which was handed over to the Water Board on 19 January 1903. It was extended to Port Kembla and Unanderra in 1909. No 2 Upper Cordeaux Dam was built to increase capacity by a further 260 million gallons. In 1915, supply was further extended to Figtree, Mount Kembla, and Mount Keira and to the towns in the north as far as Clifton. Dapto was served from 1920, and Mangerton, Tarrawanna, Fern Hill and Fairy Meadow from 1922.² Storage reservoirs were also built such as a concrete service reservoir completed at Upper Cordeaux in March 1939 holding 1,500,000 gallons.³ In January 1940, Berkeley Reservoir No 2 was completed to serve the Port Kembla area and another was built at Mt Keira in 1948 plus one at Corrimal in 1949.⁴ Construction of the main Cordeaux Dam to supply metropolitan Sydney with water ran from 1918 to 1926. It was later assigned to supply water to Illawarra.⁵ Wollongong's current water supply comes from Avon Dam.

The Cataract Dam had been completed in 1907 as part of an enlarged water supply system for Sydney to augment the existing scheme, which supplied water from Pheasants Nest to Prospect Reservoir via the Upper and Lower Canal.⁶

Work commenced in January 1949 on a water supply for Helensburgh, which was officially commenced on 3 February 1951 with work complete in October 1953.⁷ The water supply from Woronora Dam was officially turned on for Otford, Coalcliff, Stanwell Park and Hargrave Heights on 15 September 1956.⁸ New regional offices for the Water Board opened in Crown Street, Wollongong on 8 April 1960.⁹

A gas supply commenced for Wollongong from a plant in Corrimal Street in 1865. The Wollongong Gas Co was formed in 1881-2 and supplied gas from its works in

¹ Hagan & Wells, p 103

² W V Aird, *The Water Supply, Sewerage and Drainage of Sydney*, Sydney, 1961, p 96-7

³ Aird, *Water Supply*, p 98

⁴ Aird, *Water Supply*, p 99

⁵ Aird, *Water Supply*, p 28-9, Appendix 3

⁶ Aird, *Water Supply*, p 26-8

⁷ Aird, *Water Supply*, p 274

⁸ Aird, *Water Supply*, p 279

⁹ Aird, *Water Supply*, illus opp p 95

Charlotte Street and street lighting from 1883.¹ After acquiring that company in 1969, the Australian Gas Light Company commenced supplying natural gas to the area in April 1977.²

The Electrolytic Refining and Smelting Co erected a power plant for its mill and began selling surplus power to local government and the Public Works Dept for the Port Kembla Harbour cranes.³ In 1914, the Government erected its own power station at Port Kembla.⁴ In 1917, it started providing power to private customers. Meanwhile, in 1913, the South Bulli Colliery started supplying power to the area between the Bellambi tramway and Austinmer. It was extended as far as Clifton in 1914. Helensburgh did not get any supply from the system until 1925.⁵ During the World War Two, additional electricity transmission lines were installed to link up the major power generating networks across the state. Port Kembla was inter-connected with Burrinjuck by 145 miles of transmission line, to Sydney 49.37 miles of transmission line and the Corrimall Coal and Coke Co was connected by 5.3 miles of cable.⁶ In 1948, The Corrimall Coal and Coke Company was supplying electricity in the former North Illawarra Municipality area and Bellambi Colliery supplied the former Bulli Shire.⁷ In 1952, the first section of the Tallawarra power station was commissioned. It was fully operational by 1961.⁸ The formation of the Illawarra County Council in March 1958 took the control of electricity supply and any consequent profits out of hands of local government.⁹ The main electricity sub-station at Yallah was completed in 1966.¹⁰ The Tallawarra Power Station closed in 1989. A combined cycle natural gas power station was opened on the site in 2009.

Ambulance services in the mining villages tended to rely on willing men to transport the casualties to medical care. No 2 Division of the St John Ambulance was formed at Wollongong on 2 September 1905, the second Division formed in NSW with Dr John Kerr as honorary surgeon and Henry Fredericks as superintendent. Its headquarters was at the fire station in Market Street, Wollongong.¹¹ In 1953, an ambulance service commenced at Helensburgh that served the area from Stanwell Park to Waterfall.¹²

A fire station had been operating in Wollongong for some time when the Board of Fire Commissioners bought the building in 1910. A new Fire Station on Market and Church Streets opened in 1914. The original Bulli Fire Station opened on the South Coast Road in 1919.¹³ On 7 November 1924, it opened at a new location on the Princes Highway.¹⁴ Thirroul Fire Station was operational on the Lower South Coast

¹ Rogers, 'Thematic History', p 40

² R Broomham, *First Light: 150 Years of Gas*, Hale and Iremonger, Sydney, 1987, p 208

³ Hagan & Wells, p 62

⁴ Hagan & Wells, p 63

⁵ Rogers, 'Thematic History', p 51

⁶ D P Mellor, *The Role of Science and Industry*, Australian War Memorial, Canberra, 1958, p 223-4

⁷ NSW - Premier's Department – Division of Reconstruction and Development, *The Illawarra Region: A preliminary survey of resources*, Government Printer, Sydney, 1948, p 18

⁸ Secomb, Dapto, np

⁹ Hagan & Wells, p 119

¹⁰ Secomb, Dapto, np

¹¹ *Centenary of St John in Wollongong held at Illawarra Room, Novotel North Beach Hotel Wollongong on 2 September 2005, St John Ambulance*, Sydney, 2005, p 1-2

¹² Bayley, *Bulli*, p 94

¹³ Board of Fire Commissioners, Information relating to fire stations, c. 1955, SRNSW 14/1737.2

¹⁴ Bayley, *Bulli*, p 72

Road in 1924. After operating from a leased site in Wentworth Street, the Port Kembla Fire Station was operational on Military Road in February 1926. Corrimal Fire Station was operational on the Princes Highway in 1929. Coledale Fire Station opened on the 'Main Road' in 1930. Dapto Fire Station was built by the municipal council and was operational on the Princes Highway in 1936.¹ On 9 April 1941, the Metropolitan Fire Brigades area was extended to the Newcastle and Port Kembla areas.²

Like many areas, sewerage came much later to Greater Wollongong than a water supply. From 1927 to 1933, the first phase of sewerage works was in progress until halted by the depression. Work commenced again after the war progressing in stages. By June 1960, a total of 18,450 people were served by sewerage services.³ Sewering the Dapto area commenced with an area near the Lake in 1969. In 1972 it was connected at the north-west section of Dapto and proceeded southwards.⁴ The election of the Federal Labor government under Gough Whitlam in 1972 resulted in federal funding of sewerage provision after which work proceeded more rapidly.⁵

Secondary themes

Providing a town water supply

Providing reticulated town water

Disposing of sewage

Supplying gas

Generating electricity

Supplying businesses and homes with electricity

Protecting people and property from fire (Bulli Fire Station)

Providing ambulance services

1.6.4 Theme – Supplying liquor and accommodation in hotels

Hotels had major social functions, acting as meeting places, places where formal governmental enquiries were held, such as coronial inquiries after deaths, and where community organisations met before they could obtain a hall or other facility of their own. They were also the focus for local entertainments. George Brown held one of the earliest inn licences at Wollongong in 1830 on the site of MacCabe Park. By 1836, Wollongong also had Thomas Taylor's Royal Oak and Alexander Elliott's The

¹ Board of Fire Commissioners, Information relating to fire stations, c. 1955, SRNSW 14/1737.2

² C Adrian, *Fighting Fire! : A Century of Service 1884-1984*, Board of Fire Commissioners of NSW, & Allen & Unwin, Sydney, 1984, p 148

³ Aird, *Water Supply*, p 179

⁴ Secomb, Dapto, np

⁵ Hagan & Wells, p 124

Crown.¹ By 1857, there were twelve licensed hotels in Wollongong.² Innkeepers preferred a location on main roads to catch the passing trade of travellers who might also need accommodation and close to places where there were men with big thirsts so coalmines were a natural magnet for hotels. Additionally, as Brian Rogers has noted, ‘probably the most lasting memorials to [the influx of railway workers] were the numerous hotels which were established to slake the thirsts of the numerous navvies [laborers]’.³ Some idea of the spread of hotels can be seen from the annual lists of licences issued. A number of publicans were of non-British origin, such as Germans Theodore Bode (Royal Victoria Hotel, Fairy Meadow) and Charles Ziems (Bulli Royal Hotel) and Jens Peter Oluf Orvad (Denmark Hotel, Bulli) who came from Denmark.

Hotels of the Wollongong District 1865

Sign	Address	Licensee
Cabbage-tree Inn	Wollongong	Beadle George
Albion	Wollongong	Beatson D
Brighton	Wollongong	Carrey Thomas
Harp	Wollongong	Davis Margaret
Sportsman’s Arms	Wollongong	Evans Thomas
Mount Keira	Dapto Road	Higgins Hugh
Queen’s	Market Street	King E H
Farmer’s	Dapto Road	Lindsay W
Fairy Meadow	Fairy Meadow	Lysaght A
Illawarra	Dapto	Moon David
Cricketer’s Arms	Wollongong	Organ George
Commercial	Crown Street	Osborne Eliza
Woonona	Woonona	Rolfe James
Cottage of Content	Crown Street	Thackeray H
Charcoal Inn	Dapto	Woods Margaret
Bulli Royal Hotel	Bulli	Ziems Charles

Source: NSWGG, 8 Sept 1865, p 2061

Hotels of the Wollongong District 1873

Sign	Address	Licensee
Illawarra	Dapto	Brown George
Woonona	Woonona	Crane James
Harp	Wollongong	Davis Margaret
Queens Hotel	Market St	R T Hayles
Fig-tree Inn	Fig-tree, Dapto Rd	James Sarah
Farmer’s Hotel	Dapto Rd	Lindsay William
Royal Alfred	Wollongong	Makin John
Cricketer’s Arms	Wollongong	Organ George

¹ Jervis, ‘Illawarra’, p 143

² Hagan & Wells, p 181

³ Rogers, ‘Thematic History’, p 39

Sign	Address	Licensee
Commercial	Crown St	Osborne Eliza
Brighton	Harbour St	Osborne George
Bulli Royal	Bulli	Ziems Charles

Source: *NSWGG*, 9 Sept 1873, p 2474

Hotels of the Wollongong District 1889

Sign	Address	Licensee
Mount Keira	Dapto Rd	Aylin John
Queen's Family	Market St	Baxter Robert
Royal Victoria	Fairy Meadow	Bode Theodore
Farmer's	Dapto Rd	Braddock Charles
Clifton	Coal Cliff, Clifton	Broadhead Alfred
Railway	Bulli	D'Arcy Patrick J
Star of the Sea	Bulli	Dudley Daniel
Brighton	Harbour St	Galvin John P
Bulli Royal	Bulli	Guard William
Illawarra	Dapto	Hart Michael Patrick
Fig-tree	Dapto Rd, Fig-tree	Hickman John
Harp	Corrimal St	Hulbert Edgar
Royal Alfred	Crown St	O'Brien Michael
Denmark	Bulli	Orvad John P
Commercial	Crown & Church St	Osborne Eliza
Freemason's Arms	Crown & Keira St	Quilty Michael
Dapto	Dapto	Reed John
Cricketer's Arms	Crown St	Roxby Peter

Source: *NSWGG*, 15 Aug 1889, p 5570

Hotels of the Wollongong District 1898

Sign	Address	Licensee
Royal Victoria	Fairy Meadow	Bode Theodore
Mount Keira	Dapto Rd, Fig-tree	Clarke William
Railway	Bulli	D'Arcy Lawrence

Sign	Address	Licensee
Star of the Sea	Bulli	Dudley Daniel
Commercial	Crown St	Fimister William J
Cricketer's Arms	Crown St	Hannaford Charles N
Brighton	Wollongong	Galvin John P
Fig-tree	Dapto Rd, Fig-tree	Hickman John
Freemason's Arms	Crown & Keira St	Newson John
Royal Alfred	Crown St	O'Brien Michael
Clifton	Coal Cliff, Clifton	O'Connell Ellen
Dapto	Dapto	Reed John
Bulli Royal	Bulli	Sharples James

Source: NSWGG, 26 Aug 1898, p 6850

The tourist boom of the early twentieth century also had an impact fostering the establishment of new hotels and the re-modelling of older ones. In 1902, the Corrimal Family Hotel conducted by L A Riddle advertised that it was only 18 months old and that it had private suites with plunge and shower baths for ladies and gentlemen with fire escapes on every landing.¹ The Bulli Family Hotel was remodelled as a Victorian Italianate style building in 1910-11.² In 1914, the Bulli Pass Hotel was demolished for a new two-storey brick building on a site at the corner of George and Phillip Streets.³

In 1920, the Licences Reduction Board listed the following hotels in the Greater Wollongong area.

Hotels of the Wollongong District January 1920

Sign	Address	Licensee	Owner
Balgownie	Balgownie	Patrick Joseph Train	Francis Caldwell
Centennial (Hanley's)	Helensburgh	Francis Grill	Annie Hanley
Central	Dapto	Patrick Joseph Curry	Estate late Eliza Anna Curry
Commercial	Wollongong	Arthur Sinclair	Tooth & Co
Mount Keira	Fig Tree	William James Fardy	George Clark
Fig Tree Inn	Unanderra	Denis Joseph Condon	Hickman Estate
Family	Corrimal	John Clark Gibson	Alexander Lang
Family	Bulli	Georgina Francis Troutt	Reschs Ltd
Freemasons	Wollongong	Peter Thomas Doyle	A A Lysaght
Harp	Wollongong	Emeline Jessie Laycock	John Archibald Beatson
Lake Illawarra	Brownsville	Edward Edwards	Mrs Mary A Shanahan

¹ *Illawarra and South Coast Tourist's Guide*, 1902-3, Wilson & Co, Sydney, 1902, p 31

² Hagan & Wells, p 223

³ Bayley, *Bulli*, p 70

Sign	Address	Licensee	Owner
Imperial	Clifton	James Ifould Liddle	Reschs Ltd
Tattersalls	Wollongong	Edw Percy Clout	Mrs Mary Goodridge
Mount Kembla	Mount Kembla	Mary Ann O'Halloran (deceased)	Tooth & Co Ltd
Oxford	Wollongong	Frederick George Makin	Tooth & Co Ltd
Paragon	Helensburgh	Janet Emma Hargraves	Dorothy Welch
Port Kembla	Port Kembla	William Augustus Raftery	Tooth & Co Ltd
Royal Alfred	Wollongong	John Michael O'Brien (deceased)	Tooth & Co Ltd
Royal	Woonona	Barton William Jakins	Thomas Ball
Bulli Pass	Thirroul	Johanna Ryan	Johanna Ryan
Scarborough	Scarborough	Clywdd Wilson	Sarah Broadhead
Great Eastern	Port Kembla	Daniel Murphy	Tooth & Co Ltd
South Bulli & Bellambi	Bellambi	John James Black	Tooth & Co Ltd
Victoria	Wollongong	Mary Bode	Mary Bode
Wollongong	Wollongong	George Clarke	Tooth & Co Ltd

Source: Licences Reduction Board, Hotel Cards, 1920-37 District of Wollondilly, SRNSW 3/7886

Secondary themes

Supplying liquor (Imperial Hotel, Lawrence Hargrave Drive, Clifton)

Offering hotel accommodation (Denmark Hotel and Stables, 202 Princes Highway, Bulli)

Providing hotel-based entertainments

1.6.5 Theme – Observing religious practices

Reverend Thomas Reddall conducted the first church service at the barracks in Wollongong on 17 July 1831. Government approval was given in January 1833 to rent a property from C T Smith to use as a Church of England, schoolmaster's residence and quarters for visiting clergy.¹ Surveyor Elliott was instructed in July 1836 to survey two acres for an Anglican Church to be bought from Smith.² The foundation stone of the Anglican Church to be called St Michael's was laid on 14 October 1840. On 8 September 1858, the foundation stone of a new St Michael's was laid to replace the older one. It was completed and consecrated on 15 December 1859. The builder was Patrick Lahiff.³

J J Therry held the earliest Catholic service at the barracks on 17 April 1833. A temporary Roman Catholic chapel was in operation by 1838. Two acres were bought for the Catholic Church for £300 in February 1840 and the foundation stone of the new Roman Catholic Church was laid on 13 October 1840.⁴

The Presbyterians received a grant of a quarter of an acre at the corner of Church and Crown Streets from C T Smith in 1839 and a Gothic style Presbyterian Church opened on 4 August 1839.⁵

John Vidler conducted Methodist services at Dapto and Wollongong in 1839. A temporary slab Methodist chapel opened in July 1843 on land obtained from Smith. A new Methodist Church opened in 1861 and a third Methodist Church opened in 1882. The foundation stone of a Congregational Church in Market Street was laid on 23 October 1856 and it opened on 6 August 1857.⁶

Details of other churches have been dealt with in the sections on each village and suburb. With the post-war influx of migrants from many nations and continents, the religious spectrum of Illawarra has been broadened considerably. Various Protestant dominations arrived such as the Dutch Reformed Church as well as Russian and Greek Orthodox believers. Muslims, Buddhists and Hindus later joined them. The Nan Tien Buddhist Temple complex in Berkeley (1995) and the Sri Venkateswara Hindu Temple at Helensburgh (1994) are notable examples of religious buildings serving more recent migrants.⁷ In contrast to these newer forms of religious observation, a number of members of the Aboriginal/Koori population of Wollongong adhere to their traditional belief systems.

Secondary themes

Observing religious practices in privately owned properties

Maintaining religious practices (Methodist Church & Manse, 96 Princes Highway, Bulli)

¹ Jervis, 'Illawarra', p 135

² Jervis, 'Illawarra', p 136

³ Jervis, 'Illawarra', p 137-8

⁴ Jervis, 'Illawarra', p 138-9

⁵ Jervis, 'Illawarra', p 139

⁶ Jervis, 'Illawarra', p 140

⁷ Irving, *Twentieth Century Architecture*, p 115, 137

Celebrating religious festivals

Creating gardens and landscapes

Diversifying religious belief (Nan Tien Buddhist Temple complex, Berkeley)

1.6.6 Theme – Educating the people

A school operated in Wollongong from December 1826 to June 1827 but closed. A Public School building was completed in 1840 on the site of the Wollongong Town Hall but was not used for ten years. In 1844, a denominational Church of England School was in operation. Finally, on 3 November 1851, a National School came into operation in the 1840s building. A number of small private schools operated from the 1850s onwards.¹

Details of the public and primary schools opened in the other locations have been dealt with in the sections on each village and suburb but post-primary education will be examined here.

Since 1873, the Sisters of the Good Samaritan of St Benedict have conducted the St Mary's Convent and girls' secondary school in Wollongong providing a broad curriculum. They occupied a block in Harbour Street near the beach as well as opening the Little Flower primary school at West Wollongong, St Brigid's primary school at Gwynneville and St John Vianney at Fairy Meadow.² They opened the notable Chapel of St Mary Star of the Sea in Harbour Street, in 1930, with windows by John Ashwin & Co, carried out by John Radeski/Radecki of Polish background.³

Wollongong High School opened in December 1916. Christian Brothers High School opened in 1926.⁴ Girls' education was also catered for. Smiths Hill Home Science School opened in January 1944, becoming a girls' high school in June 1958.⁵

From 1954 to 1973, there was a boom in opening high schools at Corrimal, Bulli, Berkeley, Dapto, Port Kembla, Oak Flats, Warilla, Woonona, Figtree, Lake Illawarra, Warrawong and Kanahooka.⁶ After starting in a temporary location, Bulli High School opened at its permanent site on 27 September 1957 in aluminum pre-fabricated buildings supplied by Hawker-Siddeley.⁷

Trade training and the education of workers were also active in the area. The Thirroul Railway Institute opened in 1921 offering worker education. A government run

¹ Jervis, 'Illawarra', p 141

² A P Fleming, *Old Market Square: Historic Heart of Wollongong*, Illawarra Historical Society, Wollongong, 1976, p 9-10

³ Irving, *Twentieth Century Architecture*, p 57

⁴ Hagan & Wells, p 193

⁵ NSW – Dept of School Education, *Government Schools of New South Wales 1848 to 1993*, Dept of School Education, 1993, Sydney, p 130

⁶ Hagan & Wells, p 194

⁷ Bayley, *Bulli*, p 98; See also R Irving, *Twentieth Century Architecture in Wollongong*, Wollongong City Council, Wollongong, 2001, p 98

Technical College was built at Gladstone Avenue, Coniston in 1928 to provide technical education.¹ Dapto TAFE opened in 1975.² Other educational institutions include the Schools of Arts that flourished in the mining villages as well as at Wollongong and the Teacher's College established in 1963. The Wollongong Conservatorium of Music was created as a branch of the NSW Conservatorium of Music in 1972 and took up occupation of Gleniffer Brae in 1981. It became an incorporated body owned by the University of Wollongong in 1996.³

The opening of the Wollongong Division of the NSW University of Technology (later University of New South Wales) on Gladstone Avenue in 1951 brought tertiary education to Greater Wollongong. It then opened on a site in Northfields Avenue in 1962 as a University College. Finally, it became the autonomous University of Wollongong in 1975.⁴ To date, over 50,000 degrees have been awarded by the University in arts and sciences. As a university with a strong research focus, it has 8 Research Institutes and has built strong partnerships with government and industry. It has twice won the 'University of the Year' award in 1999 (joint winner) and 2000-2001.⁵

Secondary themes

Educating the young (Helensburgh Primary School, Lukin Street, Helensburgh)

Operating private schools (St Mary's Convent & Secondary Girl's School)

Operating schools based on religion

Offering post-secondary education

Providing trade training (Thirroul Railway Institute, Thirroul; West Wollongong TAFE, Gladstone Avenue, Wollongong)

Educating the worker

1.6.7 Theme – Supplying retailing and financial services

As the district centre, Wollongong attracted almost all of the original retail services but as other areas such as Woonona and Brownsville emerged, stores were set up there as well. In 1841, shopkeepers were almost 2.0% of the population of Wollongong, an occupational category that had no representatives in some areas such as North Illawarra and only comprised 0.5% of the total district population.⁶

¹ Hagan & Wells, p 193

² Secomb, Dapto, np

³ <http://www.wollcon.com.au/about/history>, Accessed 29 November 2010

⁴ Hagan & Wells, p 195-6

⁵ <http://www.uow.edu.au/about/history/index.html>, Accessed 29 Nov 2010

⁶ K & T Henderson, *Early Illawarra - People, houses, life*, History Project Inc, Canberra, 1983, p 31

Wollongong continued as the dominant centre for a long time as can be seen in comparison with other centres in 1872.

Bulli Businesses 1872

Name	Occupation
William Campbell	Butcher
George Croft	Tailor
John Floyd	Innkeeper
William Swain	Bootmaker
George S Turnbull	Storekeeper
Charles Ziems	Innkeeper

Source: *Greville's official post office directory for New South Wales*, Greville & Co, Sydney, 1872, p 78-9

Dapto Businesses 1872

Name	Occupation
Buchanan Thomas H	Butcher
Buxton William	Blacksmith
Heineweyer [sic] Conrad	Butcher
Jones James	Bootmaker
McKenzie Kenneth	Postmaster & storekeeper
McRae Duncan	Blacksmith
Osborne George	Innkeeper
Phillips Frederick	Storekeeper
Spettegne [sic] Phillip	Bootmaker
Whitaker James	Blacksmith

Source: *Greville's official post office directory for New South Wales*, Greville & Co, Sydney, 1872, p 1502

Wollongong Businesses 1872

Name	Occupation	Street
Ahern William	Blacksmith	Market
Allen Thomas	Hay & corn dealer	Crown
Anstey James	Bootmaker	Crown
Bailey George	Saddler	Smith
Baker William	Bootmaker	Crown
Baxter Thomas	Butcher	Keira
Beatson Archibald	Butcher	Crown
Biggar John	Auctioneer	Crown
Blakeley William	Butcher	Garden Hill
Bright John	Storekeeper	Crown
Brown Charles	Storekeeper	Crown
Brown John	Builder	Market
Burrell J T	Bootmaker	Keira
Casey Michael	Baker	Crown
Chambers S	Timber merchant	Kembla
Clark William	Hairdresser	Crown

Name	Occupation	Street
Cochrane William	Saddler	Crown
Collins Thomas	Watchmaker	Crown
Commens George	Wheelwright	Crown
Cornford James	Wheelwright	Crown
Croft William	Tailor	Crown
Cutcher Samuel	Bookmaker	Crown
Dakin T	Wine & spirit merchant	Crown
Davis Margaret	Innkeeper	Corrimal Rd
Fairs Charles	Savings Bank	Smith
Forwood John	Carrier	Dapto Rd
Frazer Charles	Baker	Crown
Frazer James	Cabinetmaker	Crown
Gibbons Edward	Grocer	Crown
Gleeson Martin	Storekeeper	Crown
Graham Archibald	Miller	Crown
Green John	Bootmaker	Crown
Griffin David	Butcher	Crown
Hamilton Henry	Baker	Crown
Hart Joseph	Printer	Smith
Hayles R T	Innkeeper	Market
Hayles William	Storekeeper	Crown
Healy John	Storekeeper	Crown
Herd Andrew	Painter	Corrimal St
Hewlett William	Storekeeper	Crown
Hosking J W	Chemist	Crown
Innes Charles	Commission agent	Corrimal St
Jenkins Thomas	Blacksmith	Corrimal St
Johnson Basil	Storekeeper	Crown
Jones E A	Draper	Crown
Kennedy Hugh	Bootmaker	Crown
Lahiff Patrick	Contractor	Market
Lyons William	Surgeon	King
Makin Joseph	Carrier	Corrimal St
Makin William S jun	Innkeeper	Crown
Makin William S sen	Agent	Court
Meharg John	Cooper	Crown
Miller George	Saddler	Crown
Morton John	Surgeon	Smith
McCourt William	Printer	-
McCready John	Bootmaker	Coombe
McDonnell John	Baker	Crown
McLoughlin James	Saddler	Crown
Organ George	Innkeeper	Crown
Osborne William	Auctioneer	Market
Owen Percy	Solicitor	Market Square
Palmer David	Bootmaker	Crown

Name	Occupation	Street
Parsons Acquilla	Tinsmith	Crown
Parsons Alfred	Painter	Crown
Parsons Enos	Tinsmith	Crown
Parsons Reuben	Ironmonger	Crown
Payne John	Blacksmith	Crown
Pinchin George	Cordial maker	Crown
Pipe Henry	Bootmaker	Crown
Scott L W	Chemist	Crown
Sheefe [sic] George	Surveyor	Crown
Smith C F	Auctioneer	Glebe
Smith C S	Draper	Crown
Stumbles Samuel	Butcher	Corrimal St
Thrift George	Bootmaker	Crown
Tratt John	Blacksmith	Bulli
Walker John	Blacksmith	Crown
Waples Charles	Butcher	Crown
Waring Richard	Solicitor	Kembla
Welch Thomas	Blacksmith	Crown
Williams John	Tailor	Crown
Willmot John	Watchmaker	Crown
Wiseman C A	Draper	Crown
Wiseman W J	Wheelwright	Crown
Woodward Francis	Solicitor	Commercial Chambers

Source: *Greville's official post office directory for New South Wales*, Greville & Co, Sydney, 1872, p 562-5

Consumer co-operatives were an important part of the worker traditions inherited from Britain and they ensured that they were viable entities in Illawarra as well. In 1892, the Helensburgh and Lilyvale Co-operative Society was formed.¹ On 9 June 1956, it occupied new brick building opened on Walker Street.² It closed down in 1967.³

The Woonona Industrial Co-operative Society Ltd formed in 1897, which sold a wide range of goods, including food, bread, vegetables and clothing, was the most prominent of them. It did not sell liquor, milk or meat. Its headquarters was at Woonona, with branches at Scarborough, Coledale, Thirroul, Corrimal, Balgownie, Wollongong and Port Kembla. The head office was located on the west side of Princes Highway running up to Strachan Park.⁴ In 1928, the Woonona Co-op opened a new two-storey brick bakery in Balls Lane.⁵ Only the bakery building is still extant. The Woonona Co-op closed down in the 1960s.⁶

¹ Hagan & Wells, p 93

² Bayley, *Bulli*, p 76

³ Bayley, *Bulli*, p 92

⁴ Hagan & Wells, p 93

⁵ Bayley, *Bulli*, p 74

⁶ Hagan & Wells, p 93



Figure 22 Woonona Co-operative Bakery in 1970. Source: Illawarra Images, Photographed by W A Bayley, No P05/P05786

By the early twentieth century, viable commercial centres had arisen at most of the villages. Near the older coalmining villages in the north, tourist villages had emerged and with them a range of commercial and services, though there was greater likelihood that there were more refreshment stands and guesthouses in the tourist areas than in the mining towns. The following tables provide a sample of the range of services available in the villages and suburbs including the mining villages of Bulli and Corrimal, the tourist centre of Thirroul, and the semi-rural centre of Dapto.

Bulli 1910

Business	Detail
Agent/auctioneer	1
Bank	E S & A; Government Savings Bank
Baker	2
Billposter	1
Blacksmith	2
Boarding House	2
Bootmaker	1
Builder	1
Butcher	2
Coachbuilder	1
Coach proprietor	1
Carrier	1
Chemist	1
Cycle agent	1
Dealer	1
Dentist	2

Business	Detail
Doctor	1
Draper	2
Dressmaker	3
Fancy goods	1
Fruiterer/greengrocer	4
General store	1
Hairdresser	2
Ham & beef shop	1
Hotel	Tourist; Railway; Star of the Sea; Ocean View Temperance; Bulli
Milliner	1
Printer	1
Private Hospital	Nurse Henson
Solicitor	1
Store	2
Tailor	1
Tobacconist	1

Source: Sands, *Directory*, 1910, p 35A

Thirroul (late Robbinsville) 1910

Business	Detail
Agent/auctioneer	1
Bank	Government Savings Bank
Boarding House	2
Builder	1
Butcher	3
Dairyman	1
Fruiterer/greengrocer	1
Livery stables	1
Refreshment rooms	1
Sawmill	1
Store	2

Source: Sands, *Directory*, 1910, p 192A

Corrimal 1910

Business	Detail
Billiard saloon	1
Blacksmith	3
Boot and shoe store	3
Bootmaker	1
Butcher	2
Carrier	1
Dentist	2
Doctor	3
Dressmaker	3
Fruiterer/greengrocer	3
General store	3

Business	Detail
Hairdresser	2
Hotel	Corrimal Family Hotel
Newsagent	1
Painter	1
Tailor	2
Tobacconist	1

Source: Sands, *Directory*, 1910, p 60A

Dapto 1910

Business	Detail
Bank	E S & A; Government Savings Bank
Baker	1
Blacksmith	1
Bootmaker	1
Butcher	2
Carrier	1
Contractor	1
Cycle agent	1
Doctor	1
Dressmaker	1
Fruiterer/greengrocer	1
Furniture dealer	1
General store	2
Hotel	Dapto; Lake Illawarra; Central
Jeweller/watchmaker	1
Painter	1
Saddler	1
Tailor	1
Tobacconist	1
Undertaker	1

Source: Sands, *Directory*, 1910, p 65A

Banks also set up branches in Wollongong offering financial services. A Savings Bank was operating by 1856. A branch of the Commercial Bank opened in March 1859. The existing agency of the English Scottish and Australian Bank was elevated to branch status in July 1859.¹ The Commercial Banking Co completed a large stone building costing £4,000 in 1879.² A Government Savings Bank branch was established at Bulli-Woonona in 1912.³

The emergence of chain stores in the 1910s and their remorseless advance across the commercial landscape of the state was also reflected in Wollongong. By 1938, chain stores offering cut prices or competition to local retailers included Bebarfalds Ltd, Fosseys, Moran & Cato, Selfridges and Woolworths.⁴ Not only did they drive local

¹ Jervis, 'Illawarra', p 130-1

² Jervis, 'Illawarra', p 133

³ N Griffiths, *A History of the Government Savings Bank of New South Wales*, Sydney, 1930, p 81

⁴ Merchants and Traders Association, *Country Trade Directory*, Jan 1938, p 401-4

retailers out of business but they also caused the decline and annihilation of the co-operative stores. In 1951, the first supermarket to set up in the Bulli-Woonona area was Lakins on the Princes Highway immediately opposite the Woonona Co-operative store. The Woonona Co-op closed down in the 1960s.¹

Retailers in the Wollongong area also suffered from the 'escape spending' phenomena whereby shoppers went to the southern parts of Sydney for a greater variety of shopping choices but the opening of large regional shopping centres at Warrawong, Figtree, Corrimal and Dapto reversed that trend. The opening of Crown Central and the Gateway complex revitalized the centre of Wollongong.² The Crown Gateway Shopping Centre was completed in 1986. Wollongong Mall was completed in 1987. Completion of the Commonwealth and State office blocks in 1988 also fuelled the resurgence of Wollongong.³ Two major expansions of Dapto Mall occurred. The first was in 1994.⁴ Another followed in 2007.

Secondary themes

Retailing goods

Running worker co-operatives (Woonona Industrial Co-op Society, 20-22 Ball Street, Woonona)

Operating markets

Conducting chain stores

Providing financial services (Former Joint Stock Bank, 203 Princes Highway, Bulli)

Baking and pastry cooking

1.6.8 Theme - Enjoying leisure

Leisure was originally family centred. Outside the home, it focussed around hotels or involvement in community activities such as fund raising events, major sports days, often associated with union activities or with local institutions, such as churches or clubs. But hotelkeepers were alert to anything that could draw a crowd. As early as the 1850s, women had been bathing modestly out of sight at Wollongong at the Chain Baths. Men bathed north of the Harbour at a rock pool known as 'Clarke's'. Ladies and children bathed below Flagstaff Hill with a watchman on the cliff top to prevent 'ungentlemanly' watchers.¹ Sea bathing would become a major attraction of the area. In 1856, the E Johnson, proprietor of the Brighton Hotel, was given a permissive occupancy over part of the beach for baths. On 5 January 1857, Johnson's new bathing

¹ Hagan & Wells, p 93

² Hagan & Wells, p 78

³ Rogers, 'Thematic History', p 64

⁴ Secomb, Dapto, np

machine, the Mermaid, which was claimed to be the first in the colony, was launched.² Such machines were a way of providing people the opportunity to participate in the delights of sea bathing whilst retaining all the modesty that was essential to maintain caste and status in the Victorian era.

In 1885, part of Brighton Beach was reclaimed, lawns were laid down and trees planted. Improvements to the men's baths (Clarke's Hole) were completed in the 1880s. In January 1881, the ladies baths were deepened by the removal of rock.³ Sea bathing was also underway amongst the rock holes along the coast.⁴ Bathing finally, took off as a major attraction in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century when tourists came to savour the delights of the romantic northern Illawarra and its scenery.

The opening of the railway in 1888 meant easier access so the first people who were not residents of the area or with holiday homes there began to arrive on day excursions. In 1894, the former residence of Judge John F Hargrave, 'Coal Cliff House' became the first guesthouse in the Coalcliff area. In the same year, James Swaine built two cottages called 'The Glen' on land owned by Lawrence Hargrave to use as a tourist complex. Elizabeth Hopkins opened a renovated 'Stanwell House' for guests. In 1898, the Department of Railways declared northern Illawarra a tourist area and began to offer cheap excursion fares.⁵ Other guesthouses and tourist hotels followed. By the 1920s, tourist hotels began to appear in the Bulli area. In 1928, the Hotel Panorama was erected on the heights above Thirroul.⁶

With the surge of tourists coming to Northern Illawarra a series of baths were set up on the beaches, often constructed by voluntary labour or with private financial contributions. Bulli baths were built in 1902-03 and Clifton baths opened in September 1902. Coledale baths were built in 1915 followed by Austinmer in 1917, with others to follow.⁷ On 24 March 1928, the Continental Baths at Wollongong were officially opened. They had been built by voluntary labour and Wollongong Council.⁸

With the emergence of sea bathing as a popular leisure activity, clubs and life saving organisations began to form. In March 1894, a group of men met in the Brighton Hotel to form a swimming club with J P Galvin as President.⁹ In 1908, the original Wollongong Surf Bathers and Life Savers Association was formed.¹⁰ On 11 February 1908, the Helensburgh-Stanwell Park Life Saving Club was formed.¹¹ Thereafter, a succession of surf clubs were formed on the northern tourist areas – Bulli in

¹ M Hutton, Conservation Study for Belmore Basin Conservation Area, Wollongong, NSW, June 1997, For Wollongong City Council, p 53

² C W Gardiner-Garden, *Port of Wollongong*, p 22

³ M Hutton, Conservation Study, p 15

⁴ C W Gardiner-Garden, *Port of Wollongong*, p 22

⁵ Rogers, 'Thematic History', p 48

⁶ Bayley, *Bulli*, p 66

⁷ http://www.nswoceanbaths.info/pools/lga_wollongong.htm, Accessed 16 April 2010

⁸ M Hutton, Conservation Study for Belmore Basin Conservation Area, Wollongong, NSW, June 1997, For Wollongong City Council, p 55

⁹ M Hutton, Conservation Study, p 26

¹⁰ Hagan & Wells, p 184

¹¹ Bayley, *Bulli*, p 69

September 1908 and Thirroul soon after; Woonona in February 1909; Austinmer 1909; Scarborough in 1914.¹

Not only did the Clubs foster interest on bathing but they lobbied for better facilities and their efforts were often rewarded. Not only were the surf club members voters, but better facilities for tourists meant better business prospects for all. Scarborough baths was completed in 1926.² The Woonona Baths Pavilion opened in 1928. The Austinmer Bathing Pavilion was built in 1930. The North Beach Pavilion and Kiosk at Wollongong opened in November 1938.³ Sandon Point became a popular location for surfboard riding in the 1960s.⁴ In March 1952, when the Australian surf championships were held at North Beach, it was the first to be held outside the metropolitan area of any state, and signifying a wider recognition of the importance of Wollongong in surf bathing.⁵ In that decade, two beach cultures were evident, one focussed around the surfboard cult and the other upon the older community service based surf lifesaving clubs.⁶

Swimming away from the ocean was possible in Lake Illawarra as well as in purpose built swimming pools. The opening of the Olympic Pool at Port Kembla in 1937 was a significant event and it remains a showpiece of the district.⁷ An Olympic Swimming Pool opened at Dapto in 1965.⁸

Sports, both team based or individual, have long been important leisure activities. In 1861, a cricket club was active at Bellambi and another soon formed at Bulli.⁹ On 5-6 April 1867 and 6-7 November 1867, a visiting team of Aboriginal cricketers who later won fame in England against British teams played matches against an Illawarra side on the racecourse. Both occasions were followed by athletic competitions in which the Aboriginal cricketers also participated.¹⁰

William ('Bill') Beach, a champion sculler or rower who hailed from Dapto who often competed on Mullet Creek and Lake Illawarra claimed first the Australian title of champion sculler and then the world title in 1884. When he retired in 1887, he had not been defeated.¹¹ In 1889, a cricket ground was laid out in Ziem's paddock at Woonona. The Bulli Rifle Club formed in May 1889 and used a nearby rifle range. Tennis courts were laid down opposite the courthouse at Bulli in 1890.¹² Sports based on local teams were the centre of community loyalty. Originally formed locally with local players, clubs changed as corporate investment altered them into teams staffed by players hired for the highest fee so clubs became interchangeable clones of every

¹ Bayley, *Bulli*, p 77

² Bayley, *Bulli*, p 69

³ Hagan & Wells, p 226-7

⁴ Bayley, *Bulli*, p 103

⁵ M Hutton, *Conservation Study*, p 28

⁶ J McQuilton, 'Community 1940-1980', in J Hagan & H Lee (ed), *A History of Work and Community in Wollongong*, Halstead Press & University of Wollongong, Sydney, 2002, p 153

⁷ http://www.nswoceanbaths.info/pools/lga_wollongong.htm, Accessed 16 April 2010

⁸ Secomb, Dapto, np

⁹ Bayley, *Bulli*, p 38

¹⁰ A P Fleming, A P, *The International Aboriginal Cricketers v Illawarra*, Second edition, Illawarra Historical Society, Wollongong, 1982, p 7-8, 11-22

¹¹ W G McDonald, *Nineteenth-Century Dapto*, p 62-3

¹² Bayley, *Bulli*, p 59

other team in the competition with slightly different colours or sponsors. Soccer and rugby union were popular but rugby league remained the foremost sporting code.¹

Rugby league has been played in Illawarra since 1910 and there were eight local clubs by the 1970s. In 1978, Illawarra won the Country Rugby League Championship. After a number of attempts, Illawarra was finally accepted into the Sydney competition on 13 December 1980. Wollongong Showground was chosen as its home ground. Their first competition match held at Wollongong against visiting team Penrith on 28 February 1982 resulted in a defeat by Penrith, but the Illawarra Steelers went on to become a formidable part of the competition.² In 1999, the Steelers merged with St George to become the St George Illawarra Dragons. It won its first premiership in 2010.

A golf course was first laid out with nine holes on the Common running south from the lower end of Market Street on 18 December 1897 and a club was formed. A company named Wollongong Golf Links Ltd was formed in 1907 to lease 28 acres of land, which was finally bought by the Golf Club in 1947. Wollongong Council also leased part of the adjacent sandhills to the club.³

Enjoyment of the beauties of nature was also catered for, an initiative which pre-dated many attempts to conserve natural areas across the world. On 3 August 1880, Royal National Park, the first national park in Australia was set aside. It had been acquired in association with the construction of the Illawarra Railway and was largely rugged land with poor soils that meant it did not attract the attention of settlers. Its acquisition was not for its natural values but as a piece of open space for recreation to foster healthy recreation for the population of Sydney and partially in imitation of the reservation of Yellowstone National Park in the USA. The NSW Zoological Society requested access to promote the acclimatisation of plants and animals. Other uses permitted by the 1887 Deed of Grant included naval and military exercises, rifle shooting, ornamental parks, sports fields, bathing places and public amusements.⁴ Despite the construction of improvements and roads such as at Audley catering for public amusements, the natural values of the Park began to be appreciated. In 1922, a campaign to prevent the continuation of timber cutting in the Park was successful.⁵

For those preferring a more managed and controlled 'nature', public parks were established. From about 1870 onwards, the area known as Brighton Lawn Reserve was being used for passive recreation. A total of twelve Norfolk Island pine trees were planted about 1880.⁶ Stuart Park was gazetted with an area of 56 acres, 2 roods on 29 September 1885.⁷ After being laid out with gardens and walks, it became one of

¹ J McQuilton, 'Community 1940-1980', p 156-9

² I Collis & A Whiticker, *The History of Rugby League Clubs*, New Holland, Sydney, revised edition, 2004, p 238-240

³ D J Innes, *The Story of Golf in New South Wales 1851-1987*, NSW Golf Assoc, Sydney, 1988, p 33-4

⁴ Graham Brooks & Associates et al, *Royal National Park Coastal Cabins Areas Conservation Management Plan*, For Parks & Wildlife Division, NSW Dept of Environment & Conservation, July 2005, p 28-9

⁵ Ibid, p 30

⁶ M Hutton, *Conservation Study for Belmore Basin Conservation Area*, Wollongong, NSW, June 1997, For Wollongong City Council, p 74

⁷ Parish Map, Ph Wollongong, Co Camden, 1897

the most popular recreation sites for fishing boating and swimming.¹ In November 1909, the trustees of Stuart Park decided to plant Norfolk Island pine trees in 1910.² Bulli public park was in existence by April 1886 when Trustees were appointed.³ The Wollongong Botanic Garden established in 1970 has widened the passive recreational parks of Illawarra and includes both exotic and native species and is a resource utilised by a broad cross-section of the community.

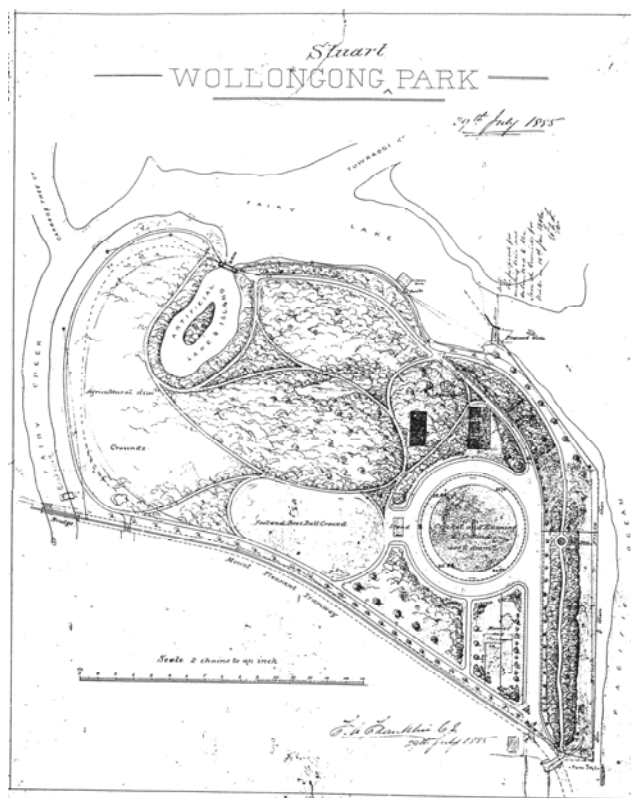


Figure 23 Layout design for Stuart Park in 1885. Source: F A Franklin, Wollongong [Stuart] Park, ML Map M2/811.311/1885/1

Extension of the natural areas adjacent to the Royal National Park and escarpment also proceeded. After various attempts over the years to acquire land at the top of Bulli Pass, the government was finally able to acquire land to dedicate Hopetoun Park in 1901.⁴ An area between Stanwell Park and Royal National Park was dedicated as a 100-foot reserve in Portions 2 and 3 parish of Bulgo in 1913.⁵ An area of 13 acres bought from the Allen estate was handed over to trustees as Sublime Point Park on 13 June 1925.⁶ Two thousand trees including Illawarra Flame Trees were planted in Lady Fuller Park in 1948.⁷ Additional areas were reserved for conservation and recreation.

¹ *Illawarra and South Coast Tourist's Guide*, 1902-3, Wilson & Co, Sydney, 1902, p 36

² M Hutton, *Conservation Study*, p 23

³ Bayley, *Bulli*, p 39

⁴ Bayley, *Bulli*, p 59

⁵ Robinson, *Urban Illawarra*, p 96; Parish Map, County Cumberland, Parish Bulgo, 1900 edition, Lands Dept image 14011901

⁶ Bayley, *Bulli*, p 67

⁷ Bayley, *Bulli*, p 84

The Macquarie Pass National Park was declared in 1969 and the Illawarra Escarpment State Conservation Area in 1979 by the NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service.¹

Lake Illawarra also attracted pleasure seekers. In the 1880s, jetties constructed on Gooseberry Island served tourists visiting them.² By 1902, there were two pleasure pavilions on the islands attracting many summer visitors.³ By the 1920s, wider ownership of motorcars meant greater use of them for motor trips and picnicking. Many came to Lake South, Windang and Dapto with accommodation built to cater for them.⁴ In 1927, a total of over 2,000 tourists were camped at Lake South at the northern side of the entrance to Lake Illawarra (i.e. Windang). Holiday accommodation was built at Lake South, Windang and Dapto.⁵ Speedboat racing became very popular at Kanahooka Point in the 1960s. Bessie Fackender's father donated land to build the Yacht Club and Speed Boat Club.⁶

Environmental damage from mining and timber-getting, the loss of biodiversity through the introduction of new species and the impact of building and infilling of natural waterways causing flooding were just some of the results of European settlement on Illawarra. Conservation groups such as the South Coast Conservation Society were becoming active by the 1960s. The proposal by the Clutha mining company to construct a highly visible coal conveyer and jetty at Coalcliff catalysed the concerns of many and lead to a widespread campaign to have the proposal rejected. Since the Clutha protests came before the better known conservation fights at Kelly's Bush in Sydney and Green Bans on The Rocks, it is not as widely known as it deserves. Bowing to popular pressure from its citizens and ratepayers, Wollongong Council has become more heavily involved in environmental care and management. New groups include the local branch of the National Trust formed in 1986 and the Illawarra Escarpment Coalition (IEC) formed in 1990.⁷

More recent environmental initiatives include the emergence of bushcare groups utilising the Bradley method devised by Joan Bradley at Mosman in the 1960s and Landcare groups. Nature is no longer regarded as something that is kept in reserves or at a distance but should be integrated into modern urban landscapes in those interstices where development is not appropriate such as waterways, along creeks and onto the streets. Due to the nature of Illawarra topography, there are many places where land is too steep, boggy or plain unsuitable for building so that the urban texture is riven with these spaces that were once in limbo but are now becoming ever more prized for the diversity they add to the urban fabric.

Music, plays, and live performances also entertained. Brass bands were a strong social element of life in British coal mining areas. That tradition came to Australia with the miners. There were brass bands at Balgownie, Bellambi and Corrimal by the 1900s.⁸ About 1899, Wollongong Council erected a bandstand in Market Square in

¹ Illawarra Escarpment Heritage Assessment 2007, Part II – Thematic Essay No 4, p 3

² Barwick, *Berkeley*, p 9

³ *Illawarra and South Coast Tourist's Guide*, 1902-3, Wilson & Co, Sydney, 1902, p 50

⁴ Secomb, Dapto, np

⁵ Robinson, *Urban Illawarra*, p 97

⁶ Secomb, Dapto, np

⁷ Illawarra Escarpment Heritage Assessment 2007, Part II – Thematic Essay No 7, p 3-4

⁸ Illawarra Images, <http://mylibrary.wollongong.nsw.gov.au/cgi-bin/spydus.exe>, P01/P01023; P01/P01030; P01/P01641

Wollongong. It was demolished in 1959.¹ Mine manager W Wilson, owner of the Bellambi Hotel, also built the Bellambi Music Hall in 1890 accommodating 600 plus a running track adjacent.² A former skating rink at Woonona opened in 1899 as J Pritchard's music hall but it was destroyed by fire on 16 December 1906.³ The Paragon Hotel at Helensburgh was advertising its Paragon Hall for 'Balls, Theatrical Performances etc' in 1902.⁴

Workmen's clubs to provide liquor, entertainment and educational activities were significant in the district. The earliest such club was the Austinmer Workmen's Club formed in 1892 which lasted until 1893. Other clubs were formed at North Helensburgh, Mount Kembla and Woonona but the most notable was the Helensburgh club formed on 4 November 1896, which attracted a wide range of notable speakers to the club. In 1898, it bought land and erected its own premises and was able to rebuild in brick in 1925. The Helensburgh club also served as a meeting place for the local Labor Party branch. Such clubs were most successful in the coal mining villages with their strong community life and settled population.⁵

From the 1930s onwards, leisure became more individual and passive rather than being focussed on community participation.⁶ Cinemas were an important part of that trend. Local histories are full of details about local churches but it is far more likely that more people worshipped screen idols at the cinema on Saturday than ever worshipped their god in church on Sunday. Robert Parkinson's history of cinema in the area provides a basic listing of the purpose-built cinemas as well as discussing the other halls and institutions used to screen films. A brief summary is provided below.

Purpose Built Cinemas

Name	Location	Opening Date	Remarks
Garden	Church St, Wollongong	21 July 1911	Open-air cinema later named Star. Roofed 1912. Re-opened as Globe 1 July 1915. Demolished to erect Savoy.
Crown	Keira St, Wollongong	7 Oct 1911	Open-air cinema roofed in 1912. Demolished for new building that opened on 26 Nov 1920.
Picture Stadium	Woonona	19 Jan 1912	Open-air cinema roofed 1912-3.

¹ A P Fleming, *Old Market Square: Historic Heart of Wollongong*, Illawarra Historical Society, Wollongong, 1976, p 11

² Bayley, *Bulli*, p 55-6

³ Bayley, *Bulli*, p 54

⁴ *Illawarra and South Coast Tourist's Guide*, 1902-3, Wilson & Co, Sydney, 1902, p 14

⁵ H Lee, 'Workforce and Community 1880-1940', in J Hagan & H Lee (ed), *A History of Work and Community in Wollongong*, Halstead Press & University of Wollongong, Sydney, 2002, pp 75-7

⁶ Hagan & Wells, p 184

Name	Location	Opening Date	Remarks
			Later known as Princess
Gordon's Pictures	Corrimal	8 July 1912	Soon known as Princess. Renovated as Roma 27 Dec 1965
King's	Thirroul	17 March 1915	Open-air cinema partly roofed and renamed Crystal Gardens April 1915.
Empire Hall	Port Kembla	7 Jun 1915	Rebuilt as Amusua 13 Feb 1922. Rebuilt as Whiteway 16 Nov 1929.
Empire Hall	Coledale	Sept 1916	
Strand	Corrimal	1 Nov 1921	
Empire	Helensburgh	29 March 1923	
Arcadia	Thirroul	14 June 1923	
Royal	Bulli	9 Sept 1924	Renamed Vista 2 Aug 1968
(New) King's	Thirroul	22 Oct 1925	
Town Hall Theatre	Kembla St, Wollongong	7 Dec 1927	Refurbished as Civic 4 Oct 1939
Regal	Dapto	15 Dec 1937	
Odeon	Warrawong	11 Dec 1948	
Southline Drive-in	Fairy Meadow	31 Oct 1957	
Regent	Wollongong	26 Dec 1957	
Lakeline Drive-in	Dapto	23 Nov 1967	
Town Triple Cinema	Wollongong	8 Dec 1976	
Hoyts sixplex	Warrawong	2 Nov 1988	

Source: Robert Parkinson, *Gauffered Velour*, p 163

Racing was focussed on the southern part of the district where there were large areas of suitable flat land. In May 1912, the first AJC registered horse race meeting was held at Kembla Grange racetrack, which had previously been a training track. By the 1930s, the vicious sport of live hare greyhound racing was under way at Kembla Grange as well as opposite Illawarra Hotel at Brownsville. On a happier note, mechanical hare greyhound commenced at Dapto showground in 1937. Kembla Grange Speedway opened in 1963-4 and finally closed down in 1984.¹

New sports parks included Cawley Park of 5.5 acres opened as a cricket, football and recreation ground on 1 June 1940.² In 1939, Bulli Council bought 66 acres of land at

¹ Secomb, Dapto, np

² Bayley, *Bulli*, p 76

Slacky Flat. In 1950, the land was turned into a sports area with a pavilion that was originally an Owen gun testing shed at Lysaghts.¹

The 1950s boom in clubs promoted by the government as a counter to the attractions of the hotels was also seen in Greater Wollongong. The Coledale RSL Club had already been formed in 1944. On 27 September 1947, the first section of the Bulli-Woonona RSL club opened in Nicholson Street. Hotels resisted the onset of clubs. In the early 1950s, the Thirroul Rex Hotel opened. In 1952, the Headlands Guest House at Austinmer finally gained a liquor licence.² Clubs formed by migrant groups, such as the Fraternity Club and George Cross Falcons Club ensured that the club boom was not just about returned servicemen and worker's groups. There is a diverse range of clubs formed by or catering for the different groups who originally arrived as migrants, such as Kemblawarra Portuguese Sports and Social Club, the German Club at Kembla Grange and the Hellenic Club in West Wollongong.

Electronic forms of entertainment commenced when the Wollongong radio station 2WL commenced transmission in 1936.³ From September 1956, television broadcasts were available in Illawarra. By 1971, a total of 86% of houses in the area had a television set and viewing was no longer a community event around a few sets in the homes of those who could afford them.⁴ In 1963, the local television station WIN 4 was established.⁵ The Southline Drive-in opened at Fairy Meadow in 1957 and operated until 1984.⁶ In 1969, a cinema re-opened at Bulli as interest in television waned and there was a renewed surge of popularity for cinemas.⁷ Television shows or films with local content attracted a devoted following most notably the famed 'Aunty Jack' show screened on the ABC in the 1970s.⁸

As an economy originally based on coal and steel suffered the impact of downsizing in those industries, there were schemes to promote new economic strategies. One avenue was to enhance the attraction of the area for tourists. In 1983, the Leisure Coast Tourist Association was reconstituted and actively promoting the area as a tourist destination. The North Beach International Hotel completed in 1983 added international standard hotel accommodation to the area. A conference centre was added in 1989. In the interest of promoting the natural and heritage assets of the area, council began to ensure improved facilities for tourism. In 1988, a 15-kilometre cycle path was built and a heritage trail and heritage drive was established.⁹ This coastal cycleway has been extended to Thirroul in the north and Lake Illawarra in the south.

¹ Bayley, *Bulli*, p 83

² Bayley, *Bulli*, p 85

³ Rogers, 'Thematic History', p 56

⁴ J McQuilton, 'Community 1940-1980', in J Hagan & H Lee (ed), *A History of Work and Community in Wollongong*, Halstead Press & University of Wollongong, Sydney, 2002, p 153

⁵ Rogers, 'Thematic History', p 63

⁶ Hagan & Wells, p 187

⁷ Bayley, *Bulli*, p 102

⁸ J McQuilton, 'Community 1940-1980', p 154

⁹ Rogers, 'Thematic History', p 64

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Figure 24 The Headlands Guesthouse in the late 1940s. Source: NSW Government Tourist Bureau, *Official Hotel and Guest-House Directory*, 28th edition, c 1946, Gregory Publishing Co, Sydney, back cover

Secondary themes

Participating in community events in mining villages

Enjoying the seaside (Surf Pavilion, North Beach Off Cliff Road, North Wollongong)

Making sea bathing safe

Providing facilities for enjoying the sea (Nun's Baths, Pulpit Rock, Flagstaff Point, Wollongong)

Conducting Schools of Arts (Clifton School of Arts, 338 Lawrence Hargrave Drive, Clifton)

Playing team sports

Playing individualized sports

Going to the cinema (Former Kings Cinema, Lawrence Hargrave Drive, Thirroul)

Holidaying

Accommodating tourists (Headlands Hotel, Headlands Avenue & Yurunga Street, Austinmer)

Conducting clubs for workers

Playing in brass bands

Enjoying electronically transmitted entertainments

Going to social clubs

Eating out

Promoting the attractions of Wollongong to tourists

Establishing sporting facilities

Preserving natural landscapes (Royal National Park)

Setting up public parks (Stuart Park, North Wollongong; Picnic Shelters, W A Lang Park, Wollongong)

Beautifying Illawarra (Norfolk Island pines, Clifton and North Beach, Wollongong)

1.6.9 Theme – Caring for health

The earliest medical practitioners were Doctors Knair and Hosking at Wollongong in 1844. The Albert Memorial Hospital opened on 27 September 1864 in Flinders Street (now Princes Highway) near Keira Street.¹ Construction of Bulli Hospital commenced in 1892.² Bulli Hospital was built by John Myles and officially opened on 20 May 1893.³ In 1908, Wollongong Hospital moved to its new site on Garden Hill.⁴ Illawarra Cottage Hospital opened on the main road north of Coledale on 17 March 1917.⁵ A new hospital was built at Warrawong in 1966.⁶ Since most babies were traditionally

¹ C W Gardiner-Garden, *Port of Wollongong*, p 30

² Hagan & Wells, p 198

³ Bayley, *Bulli*, p 58; Hagan & Wells state it opened in 1894, p 198

⁴ Rogers, 'Thematic History', p 51

⁵ Bayley, *Bulli*, p 76

⁶ Hagan & Wells, p 201

born at home with a midwife in attendance, or later in privately run maternity hospitals, another group of semi-professional health specialists served the district. Nurse Ruth Seymour was a renowned midwife attending women from the 1920s onwards. From 1926, she operated from Weerona Private Hospital, in Keira Street (Now demolished).¹

Baby Health Centres promoting better care opened at Helensburgh on 18 February 1956, Woonona on 24 November 1956 and one combined with the library opened at Thirroul on 21 May 1960.²

Secondary themes

Providing medical services in hospitals (Wollongong Hospital Nurses' Home, Loftus & Darling Streets, Wollongong)

Providing private medical care

Providing professional medical services

1.6.10 Theme - Tendering professional advice

Apart from medical practitioners, lawyers, engineers, accountants and surveyors are usually the main professionals who set up practice in different localities. Robert Owen appears to have been the first solicitor to practice in Illawarra in the 1850s where he owned a property and served on the Legislative Assembly as member for East Camden.³ His son, Percy Owen, was in practice at Wollongong by 1859 and from 1866 he was in partnership with his brother Robert Hall Owen as Owen Brothers. The firm continued with various names incorporating the name Owen until the 1950s. Charles Coffey Russell set up another early firm in the 1880s.⁴ Francis Woodward was operating as a solicitor in Wollongong by 1871. He served as MLA for Illawarra from 1887 to 1891.⁵ With the boom in development in the Wollongong area by the 1950s and 1960s, the expansion of solicitors' firms there was one of the fastest in NSW.⁶

Secondary themes

Providing legal services

Offering professional advice or services

¹ A Wood, *Tales from Our Streets: A Photographic History of Wollongong*, Author, Figtree, 1999, p 84-5

² Bayley, *Bulli*, p 94-5

³ H T E Holt, 'R Owen (1799-1878)', *ADB*, volume 5, p 384-5

⁴ J M Bennett, *A History of Solicitors in New South Wales*, Legal Books, Sydney, 1984, p 237-8

⁵ C N Connolly, *Biographical Register of the New South Wales Parliament 1856-1901*, Australian National University Press, Canberra, 1983, p 369

⁶ Bennett, *History of Solicitors*, p 303

1.6.11 Theme – Solving technical and scientific problems

Lawrence Hargrave's successful experiments with box kites and aeronautics at Stanwell Park have been recognised as establishing some of the basic principles that needed to be understood before manned flight was possible. His achievements have been recognised by a memorial. On 12 November 1894, Hargrave successfully flew one of his box kites, but his attempts to design a flying machine with an engine powerful enough to make it fly did not succeed before the 1903 Wright Brothers flight in the USA.

Eugene Dominique Nicolle developed and then patented one of the first ice-making machines in 1861, following with numerous improvements to the process as well as being involved in one of the first attempts to send refrigerated meat overseas. Though most of his career was in Sydney, he retired to a house he built near Lake Illawarra, named 'Whiteheath' where he continued his experiments. He died on 23 November 1909.¹

Evelyn Owen, inventor of the Owen sub-machine gun, produced by Lysaghts in World War Two came from the Owen family of Wollongong solicitors.² After many frustrations attempting to promote his invention to army authorities in 1940, his invention was taken up and avidly pushed by V A and G S Wardell, manager and chief engineer respectively of Lysaghts at Port Kembla. Successful field trials and the final proof of the ruggedness and reliability of his weapon in hard jungle conditions vindicated his invention. By the war's end, Lysaghts had produced 45,477 Owen guns and it was the weapon of choice of Australian servicemen who found it far superior to the American Thompson sub-machine-gun and the British Sten gun, both of which were far more likely to jam in jungle warfare.³

Secondary themes

Devising clever technological solutions ('Esperanza', 27 Jones Avenue, Primbee)

1.6.12 Theme - Creating artistic works

The noted nineteenth-century Australian poet, Henry Kendall, who first captured the emerging passion for the Australian environment amongst Australian born colonials, lived for a time at Fairy Meadow beneath the Broker's Nose. A few of his poems are about the area such as 'Bellambi Maid'. The correspondence of Mrs Rachel Henning, published in the 1950s has provided insights into the life of Illawarra, couched in a readable literary style. She lived at Fig Tree with her husband, from the 1870s to the 1890s.⁴ Thirroul has long been known as the temporary home of author D H

¹ A Barnard, 'E D Nicolle', ADB, volume 5, p 342; M Organ & F Turnidge, E.D. Nicolle - Australian Pioneer of Refrigeration', at <http://www.michaelorgan.org.au/nicoll.htm>, Accessed 13 May 2010

² Hagan & Wells, p 65

³ D P Mellor, *The Role of Science and Industry*, Australian War Memorial, Canberra, 1958, p 327-32

⁴ *The Letters of Rachel Henning*, edited by David Adams, Penguin, Ringwood, 1969

Lawrence who lived at the cottage 'Wyewurk' in 1922 where he wrote his novel *Kangaroo*.



Figure 25 Advertisement for 'Wyewurk' in Hardie & Gorman's trade publication. Source: Hardie & Gorman, *Properties and Premises – Real Estate Movements*, 1 January 1919, p 12

Migrant life in the district after World War Two has been depicted in Mary Rose Liverani's novel *Winter Sparrows*, a prize-winning work.¹

Writers such as Richard Hall and poet Geoffrey Lehmann have also used the depression era huts at Little Garie and Era beaches as secluded refuges from the cares of daily life in order to write.²

Secondary themes

Writing imaginative literature ('Wyewurk', 3 Craig Street, Thirroul)

¹ P Pierce (ed), *The Oxford Literary Guide to Australia*, Oxford University Press, Melbourne, 1993, p 149-50

² Pierce, *Oxford Literary Guide*, p 56

Using secluded places as inspiration or retreats to produce creative works (Huts at Little Garie and Era, Royal National Park)

Touching the sublime from the escarpment

Drawing inspiration from the Wollongong area

Producing films and media

1.7 Contextual Essay – Community Development

1.7.1 Theme – Maintaining law and order

When Captain Bishop of the 40th Regiment was ordered to go to Illawarra with a small detachment to maintain law and order on 10 July 1826, the forces of justice could be said to have been established in Illawarra.¹ On 27 July 1830, a detachment of the 39th Regiment took charge of the newly constructed barracks at Wollongong built by C O'Brien.²

The original courthouse facing Harbour Street was completed in 1835, to be replaced by a new courthouse nearby completed in 1858. This building remains on that site at the corner of Harbour Street and Cliff Road. Now owned by Wollongong City Council, the Old Court House Management Committee, which restored it in the 1990s, operates the building. Wollongong gaol completed the following year was demolished in the 1920s. A new courthouse on a site in Market Street close to the centre of the commercial sector was completed in 1887.³ After extensive and sympathetic additions in the 1970s, this building still fulfils its traditional role as the courthouse for Wollongong.

Courts of Petty Sessions operated at Wollongong from 3 October 1832 onwards; Bulli from 9 March 1880 to 30 April 1976; Clifton from 11 June 1886 to 30 June 1911; Helensburgh from 29 March 1895 to 30 July 1988; Brownsville from 12 December 1899 to 30 November 1907 after which sessions continued at Dapto until 1 January 1934.⁴ Clifton courthouse was constructed in 1886 and the Helensburgh courthouse was built in 1903.⁵

Secondary themes

Conducting courthouses (Former Wollongong Courthouse, Cliff Road, Wollongong)

Building prisons

Establishing a police presence (Former Bulli Police Station)

Dealing with lawbreakers

¹ Jervis, 'Illawarra', p 133

² Jervis, 'Illawarra', p 135

³ Rogers, 'Thematic History', p 40

⁴ H Golder, *High and Responsible Office: A History of the NSW Magistracy*, Sydney University Press, Sydney, 1991, p 229-57

⁵ P Bridges, *Historic Court Houses of New South Wales*, PWD & Hale & Iremonger, Sydney, 1986, p 100-1

1.7.2 Theme – Governing

Centralised control by the colonial government from Sydney through its local representatives, the magistrates, the police and court officials characterised early government control. In 1843, in an attempt to set up some form of local government, the Illawarra District Council was formed but was soon moribund.¹ Local government came on 28 February 1859, with the incorporation of Wollongong Municipality, one of the first municipalities to be set up in the colony, followed soon afterwards by Central Illawarra Municipality incorporated on 19 August 1859. North Illawarra Municipality was incorporated on 26 October 1868. By the mid 1870s, all of the municipalities had libraries.² Bulli Shire was not incorporated until 7 March 1906, in the wholesale compulsory formation of shires by the state government.

Purpose built town halls were also provided for them to operate. The original Wollongong Town Hall was completed on the site of the former National School in 1887. In 1900, Council Chambers were erected for Central Illawarra Municipality on the Main South Road near Tannery Street, Unanderra.³ In 1927, the new Wollongong Town Hall opened.⁴ On 1 June 1929, the new purpose-built Bulli Town Hall opened.⁵

On 19 September 1947, Wollongong Municipality absorbed Bulli Shire along with part of Central Illawarra Municipality and part of North Illawarra Municipality, creating a single government authority to control the whole conurbation that was emerging as Greater Wollongong. High unemployment rates in the district after the decline of jobs in steel inspired the Commonwealth, State and local government to set up regional offices in Wollongong to provide employment in the 1980s.⁶ In 1956 the combined Wollongong Municipal Council moved into its new administration building adjoining the Town Hall site on the corner of Kembla and Burelli Streets, Wollongong. Having outgrown this building, the Council relocated its administrative functions in 1987 to an 11storey building at its current site at 41 Burelli Street, Wollongong.

Secondary themes

Controlling Wollongong through magistrates (Former Wollongong Courthouse, Cliff Road, Wollongong)

Establishing local government authorities (Former Central Illawarra Council Chambers, Princes Highway, Unanderra)

Extending amenities through local government

Suffering political and bureaucratic corruption

¹ Hagan & Wells, p 101

² Hagan & Wells, p 103

³ Barwick, *Berkeley*, p 15

⁴ Hagan & Wells, p 110

⁵ Bayley, *Bulli*, p 64

⁶ Hagan & Wells, p 78

1.7.3 Theme – Defending Illawarra

The appointment of Captain Bishop of the 40th Regiment on 10 July 1826 as the commander of a small detachment sent to Illawarra to maintain law and order commenced the military presence in Wollongong.¹ On 27 July 1830, a detachment of the 39th Regiment took charge of newly constructed barracks at Wollongong, soon used by the mounted police.²

As a significant port, Wollongong received fortifications and armament to repel any invader. In 1868, three muzzle loading 68-pounder guns were sited to defend Wollongong Harbour. In 1890, construction commenced of a 48-foot diameter gun pit to house a disappearing 6-inch breech-loading gun on Flagstaff Hill. Construction of a smaller fortification to house two 80-pounder muzzleloaders on Smith's Hill began in 1892, which was completed in 1893.³ By 1988, Smith's Hill fort was one of the few surviving colonial era defence works left in Australia.⁴

Like all areas of NSW, men from Wollongong enlisted to serve in the Boer War, soon overtaken by the huge enlistments for the Great War later known as the First World War. Young men from farming communities were ideal for the Light Horse whilst miners and others were suitable for infantry or engineers. Men with mining experience but not fit or young enough for active service were taken for the tunneling companies, which burrowed under enemy positions to set off mines or large explosions to demolish enemy fortifications. A total of 243 enlisted at Wollongong. Other men enlisted elsewhere though Wollongong attracted most of those joining up. There were 46 who enlisted at Bulli for example, 9 at Thirroul and 3 at Dapto.⁵

A swag of memorials was erected to those who served and died, most of them built after the war. For example, in 1924, the Woonona and Bulli memorial to the soldiers of the First World War was unveiled at the corner of the main road and Hopetoun Street.⁶

Wollongong had a much more significant role in World War Two. With one of the two major steelworks in the nation, it was a vital strategic asset and manufacturing centre producing the steel needed for machinery and equipment as well being the producer of non-ferrous metals needed for equipment, particularly electrical cable, bullets and shells and the coal needed to provide power. Coastal defences were strengthened. Surplus naval 6-inch guns were converted into coast batteries and mounted at the Breakwater and Illowra Batteries at Port Kembla.⁷ By August 1944, batteries at Port Kembla included the Breakwater Battery of 2 x 6" Mk XI, the Illowra Battery of 2 x 6" Mk XI, the Drummond Battery of 2 x 9.2" Mk XV plus the Anti-Motor Torpedo Boat Battery of 2 x 155 mm guns.⁸ Observation posts were set up at

¹ Jervis, 'Illawarra', p 133

² Jervis, 'Illawarra', p 135

³ Rogers, 'Thematic History', p 40

⁴ M Hutton, Conservation Study, p 31

⁵ <http://mappingouranzacs.naa.gov.au>, accessed 19 April 2010

⁶ Bayley, *Bulli*, p 74

⁷ R K Fullford, *We Stood and Waited: Sydney's anti-ship defences 1939-1945*, Royal Australian Artillery History Soc, Manly, 1994, p 102

⁸ D Horner, *The Gunners: A history of Australian artillery*, Allen & Unwin, Sydney, 1995, p 390

Port Kembla. Two brick and concrete posts were on each breakwater, along with another three posts along the water front including one at the end of jetty No 4 facing the harbour entrance. One special post completed the complement making a total of nine posts.¹ The Tom Thumb battery of 3.7-inch anti-aircraft guns and searchlights was sited near the beach on Wollongong golf course, just north of the sewerage treatment works.²

Army camps and works included a camp at Kembla Grange racecourse and Dapto showground, a gun emplacement on the horse loading ramp at Kembla Grange station, trenches and tunnels on railway land between Mullet Creek and West Dapto Road. Searchlight headquarters was at the showground, whilst searchlights were located at Mount Brown.

A major tank trap bisected the area from Lake Illawarra to the escarpment.³ It ran from Mullet Creek to Kembla Grange and included a double row of timber poles in the shallows of the Lake coupled with concrete tetrahedrons used to construct the breakwater at Berkeley after the war. Another tank trap crossed the peninsula at Kemblawarra between the sea and Lake Illawarra.⁴

Significant numbers also enlisted from the area. A total of 1,728 servicemen and women who gave their address as Wollongong served in World War Two in all services of which 61 joined the RAAF. From Bulli, there were 255 who enlisted and 55 of them joined the RAAF. A total of 83 who lived at Port Kembla joined the services.⁵ The former Court House on the corner of Harbour Street and Cliff Road served as the centre for military training in the Illawarra from 1904 to 1973. In 1938, the 34th Battalion Headquarters was relocated from Hurstville to that building.

Secondary themes

Defending Wollongong harbour (Smith's Hill Fort, Cliff Road, North Wollongong)

Defending the city and industry (Break Water Battery, North Beach, Port Kembla)

Enlisting for war

Remembering casualties suffered in war (World War One Memorial, Outside Thirroul RSL Club, Thirroul)

Providing military training

¹ Port Kembla Schedule (Box 86), NAA CRS SP 155/1

² Letter Frank Osborne, Wollongong, 22 May 2010 to Wollongong City Council

³ Secomb, Dapto, np

⁴ Davis, *Lake Illawarra*, p 96-9

⁵ <http://www.wv2roll.gov.au/>, accessed 19 April 2010

1.7.4 Theme – Caring for the aged and unfortunate (welfare)

In 1909, the ‘Hospital for Consumptives’ near Waterfall was officially opened. It was one of the first institutions built specifically to care for those suffering from tuberculosis. It remained the only hospital erected and maintained by government for treating tuberculosis. It was later known as Garrawarra Hospital. Originally opened with ten dormitories with associated buildings, it was joined by a female division in 1912. By 1919, it housed 788 patients. In 1956, the Waterfall Sanatorium closed and then opened in 1958 as a hospital for the aged and those with chronic diseases after an extensive programme of re-modelling. In 1992, it became the Garrawarra Centre for Aged Care.¹

Other charitable bodies provided aged care, later joined by profit seeking companies. On 27 October 1962, the Chesalon home for the aged opened in Alice Street, Woonona East.² The Villa Maria Nursing Home in Cliff Road, Wollongong opened in 1973.³ Charitable organisations that have served the area include the Salvation Army, Anglicare and the Society of St Vincent de Paul.

Secondary themes

Conducting Waterfall Sanatorium (Garrawarra Hospital, Off Princes Highway)

Caring for the disabled and afflicted

Providing at home support care

Providing aged care facilities

1.7.5 Theme – Diversifying the community

Australia has always had a culturally diverse community. Not only were the original Aboriginals embedded within the people and landscapes of the nation, but even the convicts who arrived on the First Fleet included a number of non-Europeans. The most significant cultural and social divide in nineteenth century Australia was between the Protestant mainland English, Scottish and Welsh versus the Roman Catholic Irish. The entry of Chinese from the 1850s onwards seeking gold was a live social and political issue. Chinese can be found in the area by the 1870s.

Early non-British who settled included Ignacy Zlotkowski from Poland, who acted as an interpreter and served on Wollongong Council. His land on Armstrong, Parsons, Cochrane, Poulter and Mount Keira Roads was subdivided as Zlotkowski’s Estate on 2 November 1887.⁴

¹ R Irving, *Twentieth Century Architecture in Wollongong*, Wollongong City Council, Wollongong, 2001, p 32

² Bayley, *Bulli*, p 93

³ Irving, *Twentieth Century Architecture*, p 122

⁴ ‘Early Polish Pioneers of the Illawarra Presentations’, *Migration Heritage Project Newsletter*, Dec 2008, p 2; Wollongong Subdivision Plans, ML, ZTP: W32/58

By the 1920s, Italian migrants were ocean fishing in the area as well as inaugurating a process of chain migration bringing out friends and relatives.¹ In 1923, the Dion family of Chinese origin commenced bus services running from Wollongong to Balgownie and Bellambi later extending their routes to Austinmer and Kiama.² In 1938, former Wollongong resident, John Redecki, of Polish origin, who worked for J Ashwin & Co, stained glass manufacturers, made the stained glass windows for St Andrew's Presbyterian Church in Wollongong. He also made the windows for St Mary's Star of the Sea Chapel in Harbour Street in 1930.³

The massive influx of migrants to Illawarra after World War Two made Illawarra into one of the most cosmopolitan areas in Australia. Commencing with the initial inflow of refugees in the aftermath of the war to those in later years attracted by better opportunities, these peoples made Wollongong into what it is today. In December 1972, the employees of AIS came from a total of 59 different countries (apart from Australia), without taking account of the different ethnic groups who came from nations such as Czechoslovakia or Yugoslavia.⁴

From 1947 to 1954, the foreign born component of the population rose from 13.25% to 21.8% and then to 27.4% by 1961.⁵ Before World War Two, migrants largely went to mining areas such as Thirroul. But post war ones went to places near the main industrial areas at Port Kembla such as Dapto, Berkeley and Unanderra.⁶ BHP provided the Steelhaven migrant hostel next to the steelworks, which operated from 1948 to 1975 housing up to 500 men, mostly from Yugoslavia and the Karingal hostel in 'Steeltown' (Cringila). Meanwhile, the Federal government conducted them at Fairy Meadow, Berkeley and Unanderra.⁷ During the 1950s, Dapto received numerous British migrants settled in a Commonwealth Housing area on Yalunga Street colloquially known as 'Pommy Hill'.⁸ After World War Two, the 'villages' of Wollongong tended to be based on ethnicity rather than geographical location.⁹

Migrants did not construct a distinctly 'migrant' type of accommodation.¹⁰ Yet, there are places associated with them that mirror their distinctive housing experience. These include hostels and boarding houses specially conducted for them, often privately run. The first homes of many migrants also reflect their experience. Some of these were tents and huts and others were partially built houses, garages or houses that had been imported as pre-fabricated kit homes.

Whilst the Migrant Heritage Places Study commissioned by the Migration Heritage Project Group had to focus on first homes and women's workplaces due to the

¹ Hagan & Wells, p 207

² Hagan & Wells, p 207

³ 'Early Polish Pioneers of the Illawarra Presentations', *Migration Heritage Project Newsletter*, Dec 2008, p 2-3; Irving, *Twentieth Century Architecture*, p 57, 71

⁴ I Pratt, *Production, distribution and consumption of housing*, p 83

⁵ Rogers, 'Thematic History', p 61

⁶ Secomb, Dapto, np

⁷ I Pratt, *Production, distribution and consumption of housing*, p 77; M Walker, 'First accommodation for Migrants arriving in Wollongong post World War 2', p 6

⁸ Secomb, Dapto, np

⁹ Hagan & Wells, p 188

¹⁰ L Thom, M Walker & G Cummins, *Wollongong's Migrant Heritage Places Study* 2007, p 3

enormous size of the topic there are other aspects that could also be examined.¹ That study also drew attention to the need to look at churches, clubs and other social institutions. Foodways are one of the most resilient indicators of migrant identity in any society and are more strongly expressed than external matters such as housing. The traditional cafes run by Greeks that were a feature of most country towns in the 1920s were probably also seen in Wollongong but they mainly served Australian meals to an Australian clientele. The emergence of Chinese restaurants was another factor in diversifying Australian tastes though they always had a significant ‘Australian’ menu, for those too set in their ways. The identification of some of the early cafes and restaurants serving ethnic food in the area might also be a matter of heritage interest along with the recording of folk customs of food preparation and sharing.

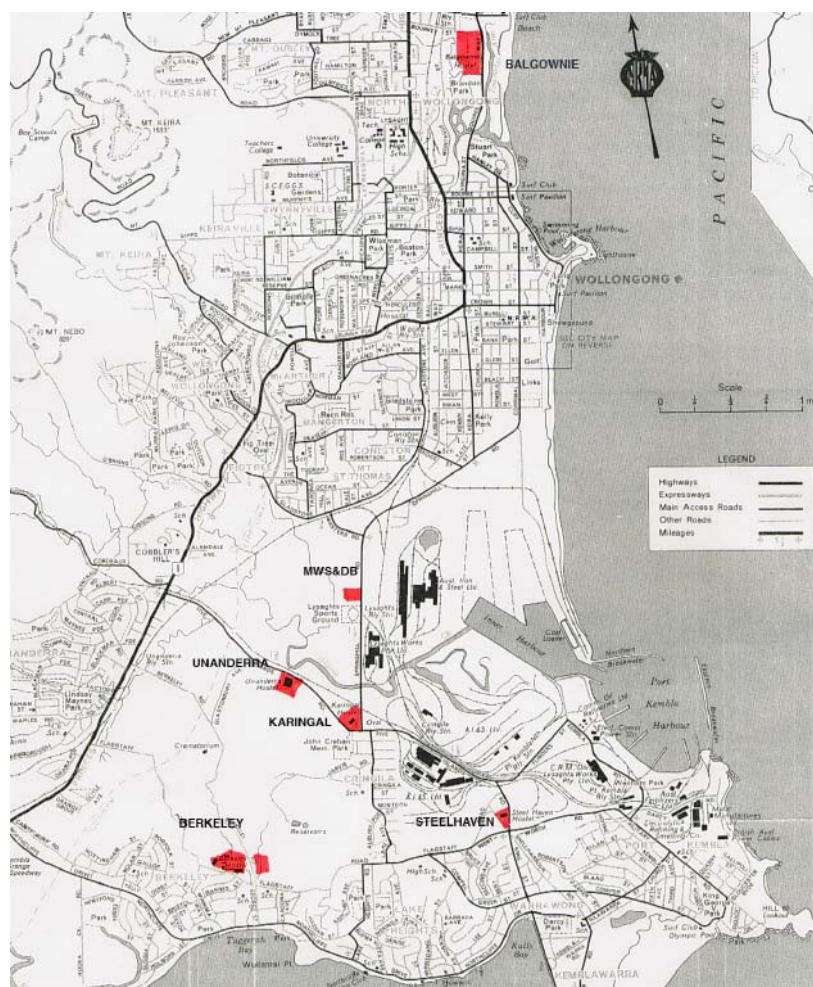


Figure 26 Map showing sites of migrant hostels in Wollongong. Source: M Walker, *First accommodation*, p 39

After World War Two, AIS tended to rely on migrant labour for its workforce whilst the coalmines tended to remain largely Anglo-Australian. Hence, when declining steel production and the reduction of the steel workforce occurred in the 1980s, it had a disproportionate impact on migrant communities.²

¹ L Thom, M Walker & G Cummins, *Wollongong's Migrant Heritage Places Study* 2007, p 8

² Hagan & Wells, p 209-10

The social and religious institutions of ethnic communities were soon making an impact on the social and built fabric of Greater Wollongong. In 1955, the Roman Catholic Scalabrinian Order from Italy set up the Italian Centre in Stewart Street, which was later, altered to the International Centre.¹ The Sacred Heart Church designed by Gino Volpato and built by Sabemo opened next door in 1966.² In 1959, after a campaign of voluntary labour by members of its congregation, the Dutch Reformed Church, in Carters Lane, Fairy Meadow opened.³ A wide range of ethnic clubs catering for diverse interests was also formed throughout the area. These include the Fraternity Club at Fairy Meadow, the Hellenic Club at Figtree and the German Club at Kembla Grange.

Secondary themes

Attracting more migrants through chain migration

Settling Displaced Persons

Working under government contract

Finding work

Living in hostels

Acquiring homes

Accommodating later arrivals

Building community facilities for ethnic communities

Maintaining cultural differences

1.7.6 Theme – Conducting community organisations

In the nineteenth century, churches operated as centres of worship as well as the focus of community activity. Agricultural societies also had similar roles in community life. The original Illawarra Agricultural and Horticultural Society was formed in 1844, holding its first show on 30 January 1845 but it collapsed in 1871.⁴ In 1857, the Dapto Agricultural and Horticultural Society held its first show.⁵ The second Illawarra Agricultural and Horticultural Society was formed in 1882 and a pavilion was erected in 1884.⁶ Probably the greatest community organisations that attracted the most

¹ Hagan & Wells, p 214

² R Irving, *Twentieth Century Architecture in Wollongong*, Wollongong City Council, Wollongong, 2001, p 115

³ Irving, *Twentieth Century Architecture in Wollongong*, p 101

⁴ A P Fleming, *Old Market Square: Historic Heart of Wollongong*, Illawarra Historical Society, Wollongong, 1976, p 3-4

⁵ Secomb, Dapto, np

⁶ Jervis, 'Illawarra', p 133

opposition but also attracted the greatest loyalty were the trade unions, which have been dealt with elsewhere.

Co-operatives were another significant group of community bodies, which were commercial in inspiration but served the needs of the rural community by making dairy farming viable. In 1881, farmers at Wollongong and elsewhere formed the South Coast and West Camden Co-operative Society to market the dairy produce from the South Coast free of commercial agents, and later becoming the Farmers Co-operative Society in 1898.¹ Farmers put aside individual differences to unite against a larger foe, the 'middleman'. After the success of the Kiama Pioneer butter factory, other farmers formed similar co-operatives. In 1900, Wollongong and Kiama dairy farmers formed the Dairy Farmers Co-operative Milk Company to sell their fresh milk.² With such a network, the rural towns and villages survived and grew with a solid market of small farmers buying in their shops and using village services.

There is not much data about community organisations but it was noted that in 1900, there was a total of 15 Loyal Orange Lodges in the district as far south as Kiama.³ They had been formed to counter what was regarded by some Protestants as an aggressive policy of expansion by the Roman Catholic Church. Surf and Life Saving clubs were also significant but they have also been noted elsewhere.

Secondary themes

Setting up consumer co-operatives (Woonona Industrial Co-operative Society, 20-22 Ball Street, Woonona)

Conducting community and other halls

Conducting workers' clubs

Uniting in producer co-operatives

Operating sport and social clubs

1.7.7 Theme – Entering and leaving worldly existence

Traditionally, people entered and left this world in private homes often attended by relatives and friends. As the nineteenth century wore on, it became common for these events to occur in public places such as hospitals or nursing homes. Births were usually at home with the assistance of female relatives, neighbours or midwives until the trend for having children born in hospitals became overwhelming. Originally, private hospitals catered for the demand but later public hospitals increasingly provided obstetric services. At the end of people's lives, after a suitable ceremony representing their choice of faith and economic circumstances, they were usually interred.

¹ Hagan & Wells, p 41

² Hagan & Wells, p 41

³ Hagan & Wells, p 181

When Bulli Hospital officially opened on 20 May 1893, there were two beds for women.¹ The foundation stone of a new maternity ward for Bulli Hospital was laid on 24 August 1946.² Wollongong Hospital opened the maternity ward Hickman House in 1951.³

Churches were the sites where most people had some form of service before their dead body was interred, either in the ground or cremated.⁴ Cemeteries came as the population grew. In 1834, when the town of Wollongong was marked out, a small area at the eastern end of Crown Street was set aside as a Catholic cemetery, where burials appear to have already commenced.⁵ In 1838, a Catholic cemetery was dedicated at Dapto.⁶

A Presbyterian burial site was granted at the cemetery in Swan Street on 10 July 1846 followed by a Wesleyan Methodist burial ground on 9 September 1846. The general cemetery measuring 10 acres 32 1/2 perches at Wollongong was dedicated on 6 December 1867. The Independent section was granted on 13 March 1877. An Anglican Cemetery at the corner of Kembla and Bank Streets had been consecrated on 13 January 1848. The Anglican section of the cemetery at Wollongong was consecrated on 3 March 1889 meaning fewer burials at the Kembla Street cemetery. The last burial in the Anglican Cemetery at the corner of Kembla and Bank Streets was in September 1919 and the cemetery was later converted to Pioneer Park.⁷ An area of 3 roods 12 perches was added to the Independent Cemetery on 22 August 1906.⁸

When the Presbyterian Church opened at Gray Street, Woonona on 29 September 1871, a cemetery was set up next to it.⁹ The first burial in the Anglican cemetery in Park Road, Bulli occurred in 1878.¹⁰ A public cemetery was set up near Woniora Point in 1887.¹¹ By 1902, there were two monumental masons in Wollongong – Robert Dodd and F W Rose.¹²

Secondary themes

Providing prenatal care

Conducting private maternity hospitals

Providing public hospital care for birth and death

¹ Bayley, *Bulli*, p 58

² Bayley, *Bulli*, p 83

³ Hagan & Wells, p 201

⁴ They have been dealt with in the sections on the villages.

⁵ Jervis, 'Illawarra', p 100

⁶ Jervis, 'Illawarra', p 150

⁷ A P Fleming, *Pioneer Park: The Old Church of England Cemetery at Kembla & Bank Streets, Wollongong 1848-1940*, Illawarra Historical Society, Wollongong, 1982, p 4

⁸ Town Map, Wollongong, 1968

⁹ Bayley, *Bulli*, p 29

¹⁰ Bayley, *Bulli*, p 34

¹¹ Bayley, *Bulli*, p 35

¹² *Illawarra and South Coast Tourist's Guide*, 1902-3, Wilson & Co, Sydney, 1902, p 46

Dying at home

Disposing of the dead (Wombarra General Cemetery, Lawrence Hargrave Drive, Wombarra; Berkeley Pioneer Cemetery)

Crafting funeral markers (Gravestones, Andrew Lysaght Park, Wollongong East)

2.0 Chronology

15,000-20,000 years Before Present

Coastline was 15 kilometres east of its present position at Stanwell Park

c. 6,500 BP

Sea level stabilised at its current position and the coastal lagoons at Lake Illawarra and Fairy Creek were formed

28 April 1770

Captain James Cook's *Endeavour* approached the shores of Illawarra at 'Red Point' but the crew was unable to land

26 March 1796

George Bass and Matthew Flinders came ashore from their boat the *Tom Thumb* near Red Point

17 May 1797

A fishing boat picked up survivors of the *Sydney Cove* wreck near Coalcliff and returned them to Sydney

1811

Wollongong was one of the main cedar shipping ports of Illawarra

1815

Charles Throsby was reported to have entered the area from the west guided by Aborigines from Liverpool

1815

Charles Throsby erected a stockyard and hut near what is now Smith Street

11 November 1816

Macquarie ordered that those who had received promises of grants from him should meet at Throsby's stockman's hut

Late November 1816

Surveyor-General John Oxley and surveyor James Meehan met five men promised grants so they could select their land at Illawarra and commenced measuring grants

24 January 1817

1,000 acres granted to Robert Jenkins, Parish of Wollongong. (Portion 52 and 2,000 acres to David Allan (Portion 53) and Robert Jenkins granted 1,000 acres

12 December 1817

Macquarie informed the Home government of the discovery of new country at 'Five Islands' known to the aborigines as 'Illawarra'

1819

Charles Throsby Smith arrived in colony at request of uncle Dr Charles Throsby and later obtained grant of 300 acres in Illawarra from Macquarie and later lived there

1820s

Cornelius O'Brien had a scheme to use Bulli harbour as a boiling down site for whales and manufactured bricks on his property

1820s

Bong Bong Road from Wollongong extant with a line from Dapto to Bong Bong known as Alley's line surveyed in 1840s

1821

Cornelius O'Brien found route from Figtree over Mt Nebo to Appin and was able to gain private finance to build a poor and difficult road

15 January 1822

Macquarie visited Illawarra and was met by crowd of about 100 Aboriginals near Tom Thumb Lagoon

13 August 1824

Matthew John Gibbons obtained permit to occupy land at 'Watermolly' known today as Wattamolla

1825

Only house at Bulli was that of Cornelius O'Brien

1826

Oxley reported that land was set aside for a town at Wollongong

25 April 1826

When he died on the property, William Francis Weston was occupying his West Horsley grant (Parish of Kembla)

10 July 1826

Captain Bishop of 40th Regiment ordered to go to Illawarra with small detachment to maintain law and order, which established Wollongong, as administrative centre was the basis for it becoming the regional centre

December 1826 to June 1827

School operated in Wollongong but closed

1827

Permission given to shoemaker, Constable Edward Corrigan, to erect a hut on the beach at Wollongong but he left when C T Smith blocked access to water supply

1827

Inn at Wollongong conducted by George Tate

1828

George Brown who had a hotel in Wollongong and received land in Parish of Calderwood had Patrick Lahiff making salt in salt pans on the beach at North Wollongong

1828

O'Brien's road was sufficiently developed to allow carts a precarious descent

1829

Surveyor E J H Knapp sent to Illawarra to measure land for veterans and to measure land for township at Wollongong

27 July 1830

The detachment of the 39th Regiment took charge of newly constructed barracks at Wollongong built by C O'Brien but only occupied briefly before being taken over in 1832 by mounted police

1830

George Brown erected an inn on part of Edward Bourke's grant on the site of MacCabe Park

Early 1830s

Road extant from Brighton Beach, Wollongong to Dapto, which crossed Mullet Creek

17 July 1831

Rev Thomas Reddall conducted first church service at Wollongong barracks

January 1833

Approval given to rent property from C T Smith to use for Anglican Church, schoolmaster's residence and quarters for visiting clergy

17 April 1833

J J Therry held earliest Catholic service at barracks

2 May 1833

Surveyor Phillip Elliott sent in his plan of the town of Wollongong

28 June 1833

Instructions issued to survey an acre for shipbuilder John Cunningham for shipyard on harbour

1834

Contract for Wollongong Courthouse approved

1834

George Brown transferred an existing liquor licence from the Brighton Hotel to the Ship Inn at Dapto and a small settlement (now known as Brownsville) developed

July 1834

Town laid out by Mitchell on C T Smith's land, which was approved on 28 November

11 November 1834

Plan approved by Governor and sites for public buildings to be laid out at Wollongong

1835

Surveyor Phillip Elliott ordered to draw town on government land adjoining Smith's land along Crown Street and bounded by Harbour, Stewart and Church Streets

20 December 1835

Grant to Charles Throsby Smith, of Wollongong, of 300 acres to be called 'Bustle Farm'

1835-6

Illawarra Aboriginals objected to the cutting down of a large and venerated fig tree near the modern day intersection of O'Briens Road and Princes Highway, Figtree

July 1836

Surveyor Phillip Elliott instructed to survey two acres for Anglican Church to be bought from Smith

1837

Second town plan for Wollongong approved

18 December 1837

Stone breakwater commenced with convict labour housed at stockade on high land south of the inlet (Flagstaff Hill)

1838

Post office shifted from magistrate's office to E Palmer's store, Wollongong

1838

Brewery established by John Mackie in Market Street, Wollongong

1838

Catholic cemeteries dedicated at Dapto and Wollongong (now Andrew Lysaght Park, Wollongong)

1838

Temporary Roman Catholic chapel in operation at Wollongong

1839

Presbyterians received grant of quarter acre at corner of Church and Crown Streets, Wollongong from Smith

1839

John Vidler conducted Methodist services at Dapto and Wollongong

1839

John Buckland's 1,920-acre grant at Balgownie subdivided into 132 lots of 10 to 80 acres

1839

Single storey Berkeley House was erected and occupied by William Warren Jenkins

4 August 1839

Gothic style Presbyterian Church opened in Wollongong, corner of Church and Crown Streets

December 1839

Roman Catholic school in operation at Dapto

1839-40

Last report of corroboree at New Year including Aboriginals from as far away as Newcastle, Brisbane Water and Kiama

1840

Transportation of convicts ceased so that landholders no longer had access to supply of cheap labour to clear their properties

1840

Presbyterian school established as well as a Roman Catholic school at Charcoal Creek (later known as Unanderra)

1840

First National [Public] School building completed at corner of Crown and Kembla Streets on site of the later Wollongong Town Hall but not used for 10 years

8 January 1840

Grant of 40 acres to Edward Bourke (Portion 12) and Wollongong partially built on this land

February 1840

Two acres bought for Catholic Church for £300 at Wollongong

13 October 1840

Foundation stone of new Roman Catholic Church laid at Wollongong

14 October 1840

Foundation stone of Church of England, Wollongong to be called St Michael's laid

July 1840

Steam mill owned by Palmer at Wollongong commenced operation

1841

Two inns at Wollongong Governor Bourke and the Wollongong

1841

Census showed there were 468 males and 296 females in northern Illawarra, 637 males and 294 females in Wollongong, 233 males and 143 females on the small farms around Dapto whilst the Lake Illawarra area had a sizeable population of 588 males and 340 females

1840s onwards

Large grants were subdivided for sale to smaller farmers and larger owners also used clearing leases

From 1840s

Clover, mainly white clover was introduced as feed for dairy cattle, and native trefoil was introduced

1841

Bulli estate of 900 acres offered for private sale. It was later subdivided and 22 lots of 25 to 165 acres were offered for sale

1842

Village on land occupied by Miss Harriett Overington who became Mrs J S Spearing offered for sale as Bellambi Estate, with village laid out at Bellambi Point

1843

Illawarra District Council formed but soon moribund

28 March 1843

Four grants made out to Henry Gordon near American Creek

July 1843

Temporary slab Methodist chapel opened on land in Keira Street, Wollongong obtained from Thomas Osborne

1844

Two convict stockades located at Crossroads near Mount Keira, and at Mullet Creek near present Dapto, which housed convicts employed in the road gangs

1844

New basin completed at Wollongong Harbour by convict labour

1844

Church of England School in operation at Wollongong

12 April 1844

Election of office bearers of first Illawarra Agricultural and Horticultural Society

February 1845

Church of England at Dapto that was almost complete was licensed for service

1846

Bulli Parish Road established from Wollongong to Bulli

10 July 1846

Presbyterian burial site granted in Swan Street, Wollongong

9 September 1846

Wesleyan Methodist burial site granted in Swan Street, Wollongong

By 1848

Rixon's Pass track was the preferred route down the escarpment and it was open to wheeled vehicles by 1858

13 January 1848

Church of England Cemetery at corner of Kembla and Bank Streets consecrated (now Pioneer Rest Park)

November 1848

Wesleyan chapel opened at Dapto and it was shifted to a new site where it was reopened in October 1861

1848

Australian Agricultural Co monopoly of coal mining was ended by parliament so James Shoobert took opportunity to open a small mine at Mount Keira in 1849

1849

G C Mundy estimated Wollongong had 120 houses and 500-600 people

27 August 1849

First load of coal from mine opened by Shoobert at Mount Keira carried by bullock cart to Wollongong Harbour for shipping

1851

Presbyterian school complete at Dapto

3 November 1851

Wollongong National School opened on site of later Town Hall

1852

Kiama Steam Navigation Co formed

1855

Wollongong was claimed to have a single main street with scattered development on side streets

8 October 1855

First issue of *Illawarra Mercury* issued by Thomas Garrett

1856

Savings Bank of New South Wales established at Wollongong

1856

E Johnson, proprietor of Brighton Hotel was given permissive occupancy of part of the beach at Wollongong for baths

23 October 1856

Foundation stone of Congregational Church laid at Market Street, Wollongong

1857

Kiama Steam Navigation Co amalgamated with other firms to form Illawarra Steam Navigation Co, which lasted until 1948

1857

Wesleyan Church services were held at Bulli

1857

H S Fry established first store at Woonona

1857

New mine opened at Mount Keira known as the Osborne-Wallsend mine

1857

Thomas Hale opened mine at Bellambi, which was shipping coal on 17 December 1857

1857

Dapto Agricultural and Horticultural Society held first show

5 January 1857

Johnson's new bathing machine claimed to be the first in the colony was launched off Brighton Beach

6 August 1857

Congregational church opened at Market Street, Wollongong

1858

New mooring chain laid down at Wollongong Harbour

1858

Water supply for Wollongong set up from pond or lagoon with trough for cattle on market square

1858

Osborne Wallsend Coal Mining Co formed and was later established by deed of settlement in July 1861

1 February 1858

First sitting of magistrates in the third Wollongong courthouse at the present intersection of Harbour Street and Cliff Road

8 August 1858

Construction of tramway from Hale's mine to Bellambi commenced

8 September 1858

Foundation stone of new St Michael's Church at Wollongong laid and complete and consecrated on 15 December 1859

28 February 1859

Incorporation of Wollongong Municipality

March 1859

Branch of Commercial Bank opened at Wollongong

March 1859

National School completed at American Creek [Mount Kembla]

April 1859

Contractor McBeath gained contract to build new gaol beside the courthouse at Wollongong

July 1859

Existing Wollongong agency of English Scottish and Australian Bank was elevated to branch status

19 August 1859

Incorporation of Central Illawarra Municipality

1 October 1859

Post Office named 'Wonona' [Wonoona] opened by H S Fry

8 November 1859

Tramway from Mount Keira (Osborne Wallsend) Colliery opened giving better access to Wollongong Harbour

1860

Church of England at American Creek completed and dedicated

1860

Post office established at Charcoal Creek (later known as Unanderra)

1860

John Richards' tannery established in Tannery Street, Charcoal Creek (later known as Unanderra)

1860

Illawarra Express founded by Devlin and Sinclair

1860s

The drought and rust outbreaks were major factors influencing farmers to shift to dairying

1861

Bellambi and Bulli Coal Co formed

1861

Cricket club at Bellambi and another soon formed at Bulli

After 1861

Crown Land Alienation Act, 24 selectors took up 39 selections totalling 2,708 acres in Bulli area

After 1861

Crown Lands Alienation Act opened up area from Bulli to Coal Cliff later known as Austinmer

1861

Cockerton and Co opened a new store at Bulli

1861

Sunday school in operation at Bulli

1861

New Methodist Church opened in Crown Street, Wollongong

May 1861

New School of Arts at Smith Street, Wollongong erected by George Osborne completed

July 1861

First load of coal delivered from mine at Mount Pleasant operated by Lahiff and Fawcett on land owned by Plunkett

13 July 1861

Keira theatre opened at Wollongong with 'Ravens of Orleans' with an audience of 200

August 1861

Work commenced on extra pier and deepening of entrance and construction of new stone barrier at Wollongong following the recommendation of E O Moriarty

1862

Ironbark and other hardwood timber was being shipped from Bellambi

August 1862

Telegraph line to Sydney commenced operation from temporary station in Market Street, Wollongong

September 1862

Bill to allow tramway from Mount Pleasant colliery to Wollongong harbour was presented to Parliament

December 1862

Mount Pleasant Colliery sent first loaded skips to Wollongong Harbour

1863

Illawarra Banner issued by William Bowe, which later became the *Wollongong Argus*

21 December 1863

Bellambi & Bulli School of Arts in Gray Street, Woonona opened

1864

Oil shale discovered at American Creek (Kembla Heights)

27 September 1864

Albert Memorial Hospital opened in Flinders Street, Wollongong

September 1864

Illawarra Mercury noted that the opening of a coal mine had created a village at Bulli

1865

Church of England school established at Woonona

1865

Oil shale kerosene works constructed for £4,000 and commenced operation at American Creek

1865

Gas supply for Wollongong from plant in Corrimal Street commenced

7 May 1865

Stone Wesleyan Chapel erected by contractor Thackeray opened at corner of Point Street and Princes Highway, Bulli

1867

National School established at North Bulli (later Austinmer)

5-6 April 1867

Visiting team of Aboriginal cricketers played matches against an Illawarra side

21 June 1867

Second Bulli pier at Sandon Point was swept away in heavy seas

6-7 November 1867

Visiting team of Aboriginal cricketers played second set of matches against an Illawarra side

6 December 1867

General cemetery of 10 acres 32 1/2 perches at Swan Street, Wollongong dedicated

1868

Three muzzle loading 68-pounder guns sited on Flagstaff Hill to defend Wollongong Harbour

October 1868

Road opened from bottom of Bulli Pass to Coal Cliff by surveyor Arnheim

8 October 1868

Newly completed harbour works at Wollongong opened by Lady Belmore who named them Belmore Basin

26 October 1868

Incorporation of North Illawarra Municipality

7 July 1869

Bulli School opened

1 October 1869

Post office opened at Bulli

1870s

Retired sailor Perkins lived on one of the Five Islands catching sharks and selling their oil in Sydney

1871

Branch of Government Savings Bank opened at Woonona

1871

New lighthouse complete at end of breakwater at Wollongong built by Joseph Mather of Sydney

29 September 1871

Presbyterian Church opened at Gray Street, Woonona and cemetery established

1873

William Brown selected 'Ferndale' near Sherbrooke and set up an orchard that became the largest in the Southern Hemisphere

1873

The Sisters of the Good Samaritan of St Benedict were conducting the St Mary's Convent and girls' secondary school in Harbour Street, Wollongong

1875

James Osborne and William Ahern erected coke works near Flagstaff Point, Wollongong to process slack from the Osborne mine but it did not continue in operation for long

1876

North Bulli Coal and Iron Mining Co formed and opened up seam near Austinmer

1877

Public school established at Sherbrooke

13 March 1877

Independent cemetery granted at Wollongong

April 1877

Timber slide built to provide access to Coalcliff mine

4 June 1877

Branch of Government Savings Bank established at Bulli

1877

Telegraph line extended to Bulli from Bellambi

1877

Coal Cliff colliery opened by Coal Cliff Coal Mining Co and weatherboard cottages were erected south of the mine

1878

E S and A Bank opened branch at Bulli

1878

Company formed to mine at Mount Kembla

1878

Illawarra Miners' Protective Association commenced as benefit society and was the first stage of burgeoning trade unionism, but collapsed about 1879

11 January 1878

First shipment of coal from Coalcliff jetty plus official opening

May 1878

Knight set up sawmill and erected dam to serve his steam engine at Sherbrooke

1879

Commercial Banking Co completed large stone building at Wollongong costing £4,000

1879

J and T Wilson from Victoria opened cheese factory in Brown's old mill at Dapto but butter proved to be more profitable for the farmers

1879-85

Construction of road from Bulli to Coal Cliff and Stanwell Park

Early 1880s onwards

Red Point (Hill 60 at Port Kembla) became a significant Aboriginal settlement

1880

New courthouse and police lock-up with two cells plus a hotel were under construction at Bulli

1880

Work commenced to build railway from Mount Kembla mine to Port Kembla and a jetty to load coal

6 April 1880

Illawarra Mutual Building Society was officially formed

26 April 1880

Two coal handling steam cranes came into operation at Wollongong Harbour

July 1880

Bishop Polding blessed a new Catholic church and school at Bulli to be called St Joseph

3 August 1880

Dedication of Royal National Park

1880s

Jetties constructed on Gooseberry Island in Lake Illawarra serving tourists visiting them

1881

Farmers at Wollongong and elsewhere formed the South Coast and West Camden Co-operative Society to market dairy produce

1881-2

Wollongong Gas Co formed and supplied gas from works in Charlotte Street and street lighting from 1883

1882

Second Agricultural and Horticultural Society formed

1882

Third Methodist Church opened on same site in Crown Street, Wollongong

1882

Bulli courthouse opened

March 1882

Work begun to open seam at Mount Kembla

1882

W Davies' Lilleshall iron and steel foundry in operation in Charlotte Street, Wollongong, making cast iron products such as grates and wagon wheels

May 1882

Church of England opened at Sherbrooke

1883

King Mickey requested boat from Aborigines Protection Board for the Windang group

1883

Construction of railway from Sydney to Illawarra commenced

27 February 1883

New coal port at Port Kembla opened with its first shipment of coal from Mount Kembla

21 September 1883

Sherbrooke School replaced by a stone building

1884

New Public School building completed at Wollongong at corner of Smith and Church Streets

1884

Primitive Methodist Church opened at Mount Kembla

1884

Coalmines opened in anticipation of rail line at Camp Creek later named Helensburgh

Wednesday 2 July [1884?]

Auction of Corrimal New Township with house lots facing Bulli Road [Princes Highway] and larger lots facing Collins, Railway and Cross Streets sold for North Illawarra Coal Mining Co

22 October 1884

New Anglican Church at Point Street, Bulli to the design of Edmund Blacket consecrated at St Augustine's

1885

New courthouse on Market Street. Wollongong built for £12,000

1885

William Ashley re-established coke ovens near Wollongong Harbour east of Flagstaff Hill and worked them until 1890 when lease expired

1885

Miners' lodges joined the Coal Miners' Mutual Protective Association but it collapsed in the 1890s depression

1885

Part of Brighton beach reclaimed, lawns laid down and trees planted. Sea bathing occurring amongst the rock holes

March 1885

School opened as Bulgo but changed name to Otford in 1895

23 August 1885

New Primitive Wesleyan Methodist church opened at Bulli

29 September 1885

Stuart Park gazetted with area of 56 acres, 2 roods

1886

Post office set up at Camp Creek later named Helensburgh

April 1886

Trustees appointed for Bulli public park

June 1886

South Cumberland Coal Mining Co opening shaft at 'Camp Creek' later named Helensburgh

3 July 1886

Bulli and Clifton Times commenced publication

1887

Town Hall completed on site of former Wollongong National School

1887

Southern Coal Company's coal jetty at Port Kembla complete

1887

Public cemetery set up near Woniora Point, Bulli

1887

Butter factory set up by Mr Harvey of the Country Milk Company that would operate from Brown's old mill at Brownsville

1887

Of 26 signatories on a petition calling for a public school at Balgownie, a total of 20 owned their homes

23 March 1887

Bulli mine explosion killed 81 men and boys

1 May 1887

Post office opened at 'North Bulli' [Austinmer) near the coal company jetty

May 1887

Name Helensburgh in use

21 June 1887

Section of railway from Clifton to Wollongong opened

July 1887

Scarborough Hotel in operation

August 1887

Private village near Helensburgh laid out on land owned by Sir John Robertson

13 December 1887

Unanderra co-operative creamery commenced

1888

Presbyterian Church opened at Mount Kembla

1888

Macaulay Park Estate at Thirroul fronting McCauley, Harbord, Ocean and Bath Streets and the Esplanade sold

1888

Australian Coke Making Company erected 20 ovens at Unanderra with others added in 1889 using slack coal from Mount Kembla Mine

March 1888

Mine commenced at 'Camp Creek' later named Helensburgh under new company, the Metropolitan Coal Company

March 1888

Centennial Hall opened between railway and main road at North Bulli (Austinmer)

1 May 1888

Post office opened at 'Robbinsville' (Thirroul)

17 September 1888

First through train from Sydney to Wollongong

After 1888

Arrival of railway made town shift from older site (later known as Brownsville) to new location near railway station, which took name of Dapto

After 1888

Arrival of railway enabled Lake Illawarra fishermen to load fish at Unanderra to sell at Sydney and encouraged farmers to switch to dairying

1889

Cricket ground laid out in Ziems' paddock at Woonona

3 March 1889

Anglican section of cemetery in Swan Street, Wollongong consecrated

May 1889

Bulli Rifle Club formed and used nearby rifle range

24 May 1889

Brick public school opened at 'Robbinsville' (Thirroul)

20 July 1889

Bulli Coke Company owned by George Adams began operating with 20 modified coppee ovens near Bulli Jetty

Late 1889

Bellambi or Cawley Estate, later known as Russell Vale offered for sale as 100 lots

1889

Colonial government created a semi-government authority called the Wollongong Harbour Trust to develop a new harbour

1890

NSW Fresh Food and Ice Co built factory at Dapto on three-acre site just south of Dapto railway station

1890

Mine manager W Wilson, who owned the Bellambi Hotel, built the Bellambi Music Hall to accommodate 600

1890

Tennis courts laid down opposite courthouse at Bulli

1890

Construction commenced of 48-foot diameter gun pit to house disappearing 6-inch breech loader gun on Flagstaff Hill

June 1890

Subdivision of Marshall Mount Estate extending from Cleveland Street to Unarra Street west of the station and Byamee to Werowi Street east of Dapto station

9 August 1890

Subdivision and auction of Jenkins' Berkeley Estate mainly into large rural lots with family retaining area near the house and also including some small lots near Unanderra Station

1 November 1891

Name of Robbinsville altered officially to Thirroul

1892

Wollongong Post Office to the design of Government Architect W L Vernon completed in Crown Street by builders Banks and Whitehouse

1892

St Clement's Roman Catholic Church was dedicated at Mount Kembla

1892

Post office opened at Mount Kembla

1892

Brick school building completed at 'North Bulli' (Austinmer)

1892

Co-operative store formed by miners at Helensburgh

1892

Helensburgh and Lilyvale Co-operative Society formed

1892

Construction of fortification to house two 80-pounder muzzle-loaders on Smith's Hill, Wollongong

15 February 1892

Government proclaimed the Village of Helensburgh West

29 March 1892

Recreation ground gazetted at Helensburgh

1893

Small salt works erected at south end of Austinmer beach for Illawarra Salt Co

20 May 1893

Bulli Hospital officially opened

1894

Sydney Salt Co constructed works at Hicks Point south of Austinmer jetty

1894

Former residence of Judge John F Hargrave, 'Coal Cliff House' became first guesthouse in Coalcliff area

1894

James Swaine built two cottages called 'The Glen' on land owned by Lawrence Hargrave to use as tourist complex and Elizabeth Hopkins opened renovated 'Stanwell House' for guests

10 September 1894

School of Arts building in Walker Street, Helensburgh opened

12 November 1894

Lawrence Hargrave successfully flew one of his box kites

1895

The Illawarra Harbour and Land Corporation erected a smelter at Dapto to process ore for Broken Hill Pty Co

1895

Wollongong Harbour Trust taken over by the government

1895

David Brothers established iron foundry in Denison Street, Wollongong

1895

Courtney Puckey set up saltworks on North Wollongong Beach near Mt Pleasant tramway

1897

Woonona Industrial Co-operative Society Ltd formed

1898

Helensburgh Workmen's Social and Literary Club formed in own premises in Walker Street

1898

Port Kembla Harbour Act, (No 34) gave the colonial government the power to build the eastern breakwater at Port Kembla as well the necessary jetties and rail lines

1898

Department of Railways declared northern Illawarra a tourist area and began to offer cheap excursion fares

August 1898

New school building opened at Otford

Late 1890s

Boom period in Dapto with over 400 men employed at smelter works

1899

Mount Lyell Co established battery of ovens near Mount Kembla Coal Co jetty to supply works

1899

Former skating rink at Woonona opened as J Pritchard's music hall but destroyed by fire on 16 December 1906

c. 1899

Bandstand erected in Market Square in Wollongong, which was demolished in 1959

1899

Beach cleared of stone at Austinmer, which was used to ballast the road opening up the beach to surf bathing

By 1899

Farmers and Dairymen's Company works in Hamilton Street, Dapto was in operation

1900

Dapto Co-operative Dairy formed

1900s

Blackberries that had run wild infesting land near Bulli and Sherbrooke were harvested by locals for sale to jam making factories

Early 1900s

Coalmines begin to consolidate operations by closing smaller pits, jetties and shifting to rail transport of coal to Port Kembla

Early 1900s

Trade unionism revived when Dapto smelter workers formed one of the earliest trade unions in Illawarra

1900

Aborigines Protection Board set up a reserve at Windang

1900

Wollongong and Kiama dairy farmers formed the Dairy Farmers Co-operative Milk Company to sell fresh milk

1900

Council Chambers erected for Central Illawarra Municipality on Main South Road near Tannery Street, Unanderra

1900

Bridge across entrance to Tom Thumb Lagoon replaced Trimmer's Bridge and provided easier access between Wollongong and Port Kembla

1901

NSW Fresh Food and Ice Co set up creamery at Avondale

1901

Thomas Pendlebury's brickworks opened on new site on main road near Gray Street, Woonona

1901

After various attempts over the years to acquire land at top of Bulli Pass, government was finally able to acquire land to dedicate Hopetoun Park

25 February 1901

New post office opened at corner of Cowper and Parkes Streets, Helensburgh built by G Ricketts

By 1902

Baths had been cut in rock platform at Clifton

1902

Illawarra Colliery Employees' Association registered under the new Arbitration Act

1902

The Wollongong Cycle and Engineering Works was manufacturing bicycles and claimed to have the most advanced bicycle works outside Sydney

1902

Paragon Hotel at Helensburgh was advertising its Paragon Hall for 'Balls, Theatrical Performances etc'

1902

Two pleasure pavilions were operating on the islands in Lake Illawarra attracting many summer visitors

31 July 1902

Mount Kembla explosion killed 94 miners and two rescuers

August 1902

A platform named Coledale was established on railway

1903

Electric coal cutting machines introduced at South Bulli colliery

1903

New colliery opened which revived an older mine between Austinmer and South Clifton named North Bulli colliery

1903

Village of Sherbrooke resumed by State government since it was in the catchment area for Cataract Dam

1903

BHP opened 100 coke ovens between Bellambi and Woonona to produce coke

19 January 1903

Water supply scheme for Wollongong handed over by Public Works Dept to the Metropolitan Water Board

August 1903

Berkeley School of Arts opened at site near junction of Princes Highway and Five Islands Road

7 November 1903

Township lots offered for sale at Coledale

1904

Death of noted dairyman F P MacCabe in 1897 resulted in subdivision of his Russell Vale estate and the sale of 116 lots

1904

Postal receiving office at Coledale commenced

1904

Telephone service commenced in Wollongong

12 March 1904

St John's Church of England opened at Austinmer

1905

Dapto smelter works closed

29 November 1905

Lots in fishing village facing Lake, Short and George Streets at 'Fishtown' (Berkeley) auctioned

1906

Ambulance service commenced in Wollongong

7 March 1906

Incorporation of Bulli Shire

1 October 1906

Thirroul Park subdivision auctioned which spurred home building

12 November 1906

Kennedy's estate at Austinmer subdivided by Slade and Brown with 70 lots facing Mountain, Kirton and the South Coast Road, Dunne Street and Oceana Parade, which opened up the area

1907 and 1914

Major sale of building lots that opened up Stanwell Park as tourist and surfing destination

1907

Illawarra Fireclay and Brick Co formed near Wonoona to produce refractory bricks for use in steel furnaces

1907

Cataract Dam completed as first part of water supply system for Sydney

1907

Telephone service commenced at Bulli

1908

Both St Oswald's Church of England on main road and Methodist Church in Young Street, Coledale complete

1908

Eastern breakwater completed at Port Kembla enabling better loading facilities

1908

Formation of original Wollongong Surf Bathers and Life Savers Association

1908

Wollongong Hospital on new site at Garden Hill

After 1908

First furnished house for tourists at Austinmer popularly known as the 'Butterbox', which became the Outlook Guest House

11 February 1908

Helensburgh-Stanwell Park Life Saving Club formed

December 1908

Founding of the Electrolytic Refining and Smelting Co (ERS) at Port Kembla using equipment and buildings shifted from the Dapto smelter works

1909

Smelting works to treat ores from Mount Morgan at Port Kembla in operation

1909

'Hospital for Consumptives' built near Waterfall [later Garrawarra Hospital]

26 June 1909

Original subdivision of Wentworth estate at Port Kembla that created Wentworth Street sold as the 1st Subdivision of the Five Islands Estate

1912

Port Kembla (Northern Breakwater) Act, (No 65) gave the state government power to build the northern breakwater

1912

Government Savings Bank branch established at Bulli-Woonona

30 March 1912

Coledale Public School officially opened

May 1912

First AJC registered horse race meeting at Kembla Grange racetrack, which had previously been a training track

1913

Earliest motorbus service from Thirroul to Wollongong and Port Kembla

1913

South Bulli Colliery started supplying power to area between Bellambi tramway and Austinmer

1914

Illawarra Coke Company set up 50 ovens at Coalcliff

1915

Railway shunting yards and locomotive depot established at Thirroul, which affected tourist market but inspired 160 railway workers to settle in the town

30 May 1915

Deviation and duplication of railway between Waterfall and Lilyvale opened

15 August 1915

Platforms at Clifton and Scarborough replaced by one midway between their sites

1916

Purchase by Hoskins of small mine at Wongawilli run by butcher Walter Lang

December 1916

Wollongong High School opened

1917

Government built power station at Port Kembla started providing power to private users

1917

New baths erected at Austinmer

17 March 1917

Illawarra Cottage Hospital opened on main road north of Coledale

February 1918

Metal Manufactures Ltd commenced operations with 79 employees at Port Kembla

April 1918

Hoskins Iron and Steel was sending 1,600 tons of coke per month to Lithgow from its coke ovens at Wongawilli

August 1918

First mine bathhouse for miners to clean themselves before leaving for home set up at Coalcliff

1919

Brickworks opened at Thirroul

1920

Australian Fertiliser Co established at Port Kembla

1920

Edwin Street began producing hand-churned custards at his grocer's shop in Corrimal, which he sold to other shops

1920

Initial subdivisions on waterfront at Judbooley Parade at Windang

1920

Deviation and duplication of railway line between Otford and Coalcliff put into service

1920

Water supply extended to Dapto

19 October 1920

Main highway renamed Princes Highway

1920s

Separate coal and tourist villages along the escarpment and sea north of Woonona had coalesced into a single conurbation

1920s

Tourist hotels began to appear in the Bulli area

1920s

Italian migrants commenced ocean fishing from Wollongong Harbour and process of chain migration bringing out friends and relatives

1921

Thirroul Railway Institute opened and offered worker education

1922

Author D H Lawrence lived at 'Wyewurk', Thirroul and wrote his novel *Kangaroo*

1923

Dion family of Chinese origin commenced bus services running from Wollongong to Balgownie and Bellambi later extending routes to Austinmer and Kiama

1924

Post office set up in Turnbull's store, which occupied Windang House

7 November 1924

Bulli Fire Station opened

1925

Fifth subdivision of Peterborough Estate, Windang

1925

Northern breakwater at Port Kembla completed

1925

Federal Nationalist-Country Party government placed a basic price on butter with the Paterson scheme by excluding foreign butter and levying consumers to fund exports

13 June 1925

An area of 13 acres bought from the Allen estate was handed over to trustees as Sublime Point Park

1926

Scarborough baths completed

1926

Turner offered the Berrwarra Estate at Windang adjoining his house 'Wyndang' for sale

1926

Illawarra Coastal Fishery Company set up and lasted to 1931

1926

Christian Brothers High School, Wollongong opened

1927

Mines Rescue station set up at Princes Highway, Bellambi

1927

New Wollongong Town Hall opened

January 1927

Hoskins Iron and Steel Company built a new blast furnace at Port Kembla to start its shift from Lithgow

1927-33

First phase of sewerage works in progress until halted by depression

1928

Woonona Co-op opened new two-storey brick bakery in Balls Lane, Woonona

1928

Frank Guest operating Popular Café, Crown Street, Wollongong, when he began to produce pies with his brother

1928

Technical College built at Gladstone Avenue, Wollongong to provide technical education

1928

Woonona Baths Pavilion opened

1928

Hotel Panorama erected on heights above Thirroul

May 1928

Australian Iron and Steel Ltd formed from Hoskins Iron and Steel Company plus other companies

24 August 1928

Blast furnace blown in at Port Kembla

1 June 1929

New purpose-built Bulli town hall opened

1930

Austinmer Bathing Pavilion built

1930s

Live hare greyhound racing at Kembla Grange as well as opposite Illawarra Hotel at Brownsville

1931

Lang Labour government repealed the failed Bavin government's Metropolitan Milk Act of 1929 with new Milk Act, which set up a milk marketing for fresh milk sent to Sydney and set up the Milk Board

1932

Railway link from Moss Vale to Port Kembla complete

1933

Thirrour was the largest settlement in the northern area followed by Woonona and Bulli, whilst Bellambi-Corrimal may also have been as large as Thirrour

1933

Census showed over 2,000 households living in tents around the area

1934 to 1939

Major growth in number of houses in the Central Illawarra municipality

1930s onwards

Development progressed in two sectors from Port Kembla, the first from Cringila south through Lake Heights toward Lake Illawarra and the second at Warrawong

1935

BHP Bellambi Coke works closed

1935

Broken Hill Pty Ltd took over AIS, which was suffering from capital problems and price-cutting by BHP

1936

North Beach Surf Club opened

1936

Ben Howard built Windang Boat Shed hiring boats to tourists and selling fish

1936

First co-operative building society, the Port Kembla Co-operative Building Society formed

1936

Wollongong radio station 2WL commenced transmission

1937

Mechanical hare greyhound commenced at Dapto showground

1937

Commonwealth Oil Refineries opened petrol-blending works utilising benzol produced by BHP coke works

1937

Lighthouse at Flagstaff Point at Wollongong erected

By November 1937

South Coast Co-operative Building Society Ltd operating with its office in 185 Crown Street, Wollongong

1938

BHP commenced using mechanical coal cutters at its Wongawilli and Mount Keira mines

1938

Department of Works and Housing erected houses at Wattle Street, Warrawong, known as the Temporary Settlement for the unemployed soon named 'Spoonerville'

April 1938

Bridge across entrance to Lake Illawarra linking Windang with Warilla made a significant improvement to access from the south

November 1938

North Beach Pavilion and Kiosk opened

1939

There were five co-operative building societies at Port Kembla, which had financed 721 houses by 1941

1939

Total of 65 cottages and 20 barracks for single men occupied at 'Spoonerville' at Warrawong

January 1939

Lysaghts opened new mill to produce rolled sheet steel

February 1939

Commonwealth Rolling Mills began producing high finish steel for car bodies and appliances

March 1939

Concrete storage dam of 1,500,000 gallons was completed at Upper Cordeaux

18 May 1939

Henry F Halloran acquired Berkeley House and surrounding area for subdivision

1939-1945 - World War Two

Women also entered the engineering and manufacturing industry in number though they were relegated to less demanding roles after the war

1939-1945 - World War Two

New mines developed at Avondale and Mount Kembla

1939-1945 - World War Two

Shore defence batteries constructed included the Breakwater Battery at Port Kembla, the Illowra Battery at Hill 60 and the Drummond Battery on Mount Drummond (Mount St Thomas) and Mount Nebo

January 1940

Berkeley Reservoir No 2 completed to supply water to Port Kembla area

1 June 1940

Cawley Park of 5.5 acres opened as cricket, football and recreation ground at Russell Vale

1940-1

Major subdivisions at Windang

1942

Aborigines were compulsorily moved from Hill 60 due to the construction of major defence works on the hill

1944

Coledale RSL Club formed

1945

Wongawilli coke works closed when coke works erected at Port Kembla

June 1945

Helensburgh Manufacturing Co established producing clothing

After 1945

Migrant hostels at Port Kembla, Fairy Meadow, Balgownie, Berkeley and Unanderra

After 1945

Most significant industry at Dapto was the Parrish meatworks at Yallah

After 1945

Concrete tetrahedron tank barriers used to build safe fishing harbour at Berkeley fishing village

1946

Housing Commission erected converted military huts in Baan Baa Street, Dapto near Mulda Street

24 August 1946

Foundation stone of new maternity ward for Bulli Hospital laid

19 September 1947

Wollongong Municipality absorbed Bulli Shire, Central Illawarra Municipality and North Illawarra Municipality

27 September 1947

First section of Bulli-Woonona RSL club opened in Nicholson Street

1948

Bulli Brick & Tile Co opened near Slacky Flat in 'Woods Farm' paddock

1949

Housing Commission erected first public housing in Bulli area in Farrell Road between the sea and the railway

January 1949

Work commenced on water supply for Helensburgh

1950s

Bypassed railway tunnels at Helensburgh, Lilyvale and Otford used for growing mushrooms

1951

Rayon mill opened at Bulli by John Vicars & Co

1951

Opening of Wollongong Division of the NSW University of Technology (later University of New South Wales)

1951

Wollongong Hospital opened maternity ward Hickman House

3 February 1951

Water supply for Helensburgh officially turned on

1951-2

Commonwealth Government built 156 Swedish pre-fabricated timber houses to accommodate British migrant miners and steelworkers on Yalunga Street, Dapto, known colloquially as 'Pommy Hill'

1952

First section of Tallawarra power station commissioned and was fully operational by 1961

1952

Headlands Guest House at Austinmer gained liquor licence

1953

Ambulance service commenced at Helensburgh serving area from Stanwell Park to Waterfall

1954 to 1973

Boom in opening high schools at Corrimal, Bulli, Berkeley, Dapto, Port Kembla, Oak Flats, Warilla, Woonona, Figtree, Lake Illawarra, Warrawong and Kanahooka

1955

First two bays of the Crystal Clothing factory at Marshall Street, Dapto were operating

1955

Taylor and Woodrow Pty Ltd subdivided large area east of Dapto and south of Fowler Road, selling house and land packages in scheme to sell 1,100 houses

1955

Roman Catholic Scalabrinian Order from Italy set up Italian Centre in Stewart Street that was later re-named as International Centre

1956

Sacred Haert Roman Catholic Church opened in Stewart Street next to Italian Centre set up by Scalabrinian Order

1956

Wollongong Council moved its administrative functions to new Council Chambers on the corner of Kembla and Burelli Streets, adjoining the Town Hall

1956

Construction of inner harbour commenced at Port Kembla and was complete by 1960

18 February 1956

Baby Health Centre opened at Helensburgh

9 June 1956

Helensburgh and Lilyvale Co-operative Society opened a new brick building on Walker Street

September 1956

Television broadcasts were available in Wollongong area

15 September 1956

Water supply officially turned on for Otford, Coalcliff, Stanwell Park and Hargrave Heights

24 November 1956

Baby Health Centre opened at Woonona

1957

Southline Drive-in opened at Fairy Meadow and operated until 1984

1957

Waterfall Sanatorium closed to re-open in 1958 as Garrawarra Hospital for the aged and those with chronic diseases after extensive programme of re-modelling

27 September 1957

Bulli High School opened at its site in aluminum pre-fabricated buildings supplied by Hawker-Siddeley

March 1958

Formation of Illawarra County Council took control of supply of electricity out of hands of local government

1959

The Dutch Reformed church opened in Carters Lane, Fairy Meadow after being built by voluntary labour

1960s

Sandon Point became a popular location for surfboard riding

8 April 1960

New offices of Water Board opened in Crown Street, Wollongong

21 May 1960

Baby Health Centre combined with the library opened at Thirroul

1960s

Woonona Co-op closed down

1961

Land development at Kanahooka Point Estate on shore of Lake Illawarra commenced and was fastest growing area at Dapto by early 1970s

1962

First new houses at Kanahooka were almost complete

29 June 1962

Coomaditchy Aboriginal Reserve, Shellharbour Road, Warrawong of 1 acre 23 perches operational

27 December 1963

First coal export berth in the new inner harbour opened at Port Kembla

Mid 1960s

Lakelands housing estate completed with 216 new houses, which filled in the area between Dapto and the Lake

1963

Local television station WIN 4 established

1963-4

Kembla Grange Speedway opened

1965

Olympic Swimming Pool opened at Dapto

1966

Main electricity sub-station at Yallah completed

1966

New hospital built at Warrawong

1967

Coal loader with 500 tonne per hour capacity completed at AIS bulk wharf at Port Kembla

1967

Helensburgh and Lilyvale Co-operative Society closed down

1968

Illawarra Planning Scheme Ordinance zoned residential areas around all the towns and villages

1969

Provision of sewerage service commenced of Dapto area starting with the area near Lake Illawarra

1970

Mt Kembla mine closes

1971

Federal Coke Company, North Wollongong works closed

1972

Election of Federal Labor government under Gough Whitlam resulted in federal funding of sewerage provision

1973

David Brothers foundry at Wollongong closed

1973 onwards

Tariff reductions had a negative impact on textile factories

1975

Dapto TAFE opened

1975

Wollongong Division of the NSW University of Technology (later University of New South Wales) became the University of Wollongong

1979

The Illawarra Hawks joined the National Basketball League

1982

Football team the Illawarra Steelers founded

1982-3

Massive reductions of staff at Port Kembla steelworks

1983

Leisure Coast Tourist Association reconstituted and became active in promoting the area as a tourist destination

1983

North Beach International Hotel completed and a conference centre was added in 1989

1984

Kembla Grange speedway closed down

1985

Fishermen's Co-operative set up at Berkeley

1985

Electrification of railway line to Sydney

1986

Crown Gateway Shopping Centre completed at Wollongong

1987

Wollongong City Council's new 11 storey administration building completed on its present site at 41 Burelli Street Wollongong. The former Council Chambers were subsequently converted to the City Art Gallery.

1987

Wollongong Mall completed

1987

Meatworks at Yallah closed down due to encroaching suburbia

1988

Commonwealth and State office blocks completed at Wollongong

1988

Smiths Hill Fort dug up and restored as a Bicentennial project to create 'Battery Park'

1988

A 15-kilometre cycle path built and a heritage trail established at Wollongong

1989

Huntley mine closed

1992

Austinmer Surf Lifesaving Clubhouse rebuilt

1993

Subdivision of Forest Grove on part of the former Dapto smelter works at Kanahooka Road and pre-fabricated houses built at Kembla Grange on residential lots as a way of providing attractive low cost housing

July 1994

Taylor-Woodrow, a large company, announced that it would be releasing lots at Highcroft Estate on Bong Bong Road which totalled about half the lots in the 1,400 lot Horsley Estate

1995

Southern Copper previously the Electrolytic Refining and Smelting Co at Port Kembla closed down

1995

Berkeley Nan Tien temple opened

1996

The 'Fig Tree' at Figtree was cut down

1998

Work commenced on the refurbishment of Clifton School of Arts after community fundraising and input from the Joint Coal Board and the Heritage Commission

17 August 1998

Severe flooding and mudslides throughout the Illawarra. Wollongong recorded 316 mm of rainfall on 17 August

September 1998

WIN Entertainment Centre opened

1999

Unanderra Public School relocated from Princes Highway to Derribong Drive, Cordeaux Heights

1999

Illawarra Steelers merged with St George Dragons to become St George Illawarra Dragons

2000

Port Kembla Copper smelter began operating after development of the site using modern technology to increase output and reduce emissions

1999-2000

University of Wollongong awarded the University of the Year (joint winner) for 'Outstanding Research and Development Partnerships'

2000-2001

University of Wollongong awarded the University of the Year (joint winner) for 'Preparing Graduates for the E-World'

2001

Clifton School of Arts opened

25 December 2001

Massive bushfires reached Helensburgh destroying or damaging a number of houses and businesses

2001

BHP Billiton approved Dendrobium mine, which was the first mine to be built on the southern coalfields in twenty years

2003

Lawrence Hargrave Drive closed to traffic after a large embankment slip between Stanwell Park and Clifton

2003

Clifton Imperial Hotel closed

2003

Port Kembla Copper smelter closed due to low copper prices

2005

North Beach Precinct added to the State Heritage Register

2005

New Sea Cliff Bridge opened and elevated boardwalk and pathways were constructed to connect Clifton Village to the new bridge

2007

Sandon Point Aboriginal Place was declared under the *National Parks & Wildlife Act 1974*

2008

Wollongong City Council in administration following ICAC investigation in March

5 October 2008

The first vessel to deliver cars to Port Kembla Terminal docked

2009

Tru-Energy opened a combined Gas Turbine Power Station at Tallawarra

2009

Southern Gateway Tourist Centre opened

2010

Wollongong Harbour Precinct added to the State Heritage Register

2010

St George Illawarra Dragons won NRL Premiership

3.0 Historical Themes for the City of Wollongong Compared with National and State Themes

Australian Theme	NSW Theme	Local Theme for the City of Wollongong	Notes	Examples
1 Tracing the natural evolution of Australia	Environment - naturally evolved	Natural Environment	There are two aspects to this theme: (1) Features occurring naturally in the physical environment which have significance independent of human intervention (2) Features occurring naturally in the physical environment which have shaped or influenced human life and cultures.	A geological formation, fossil site, ecological community, island, soil site, river flats, estuary, mountain range, reef, lake, woodland, seagrass bed, wetland, desert, alps, plain, valley, headland, evidence of flooding, earthquake, bushfire and other natural occurrences.
2 Peopling Australia	Aboriginal cultures and interactions with other cultures	Living in harmony with the land Coping with invasion Maintaining a cultural identity	Activities associated with maintaining, developing, experiencing and remembering Aboriginal cultural identities and practices, past and present; with demonstrating distinctive ways of life; and with interactions demonstrating race relations.	Place name, camp site, midden, fish trap, trade route, massacre site, shipwreck contact site, missions and institutions, whaling station, pastoral workers camp, timber mill settlement, removed children's home, town reserve, protest site, places relating to self-determination, keeping place, resistance & protest sites, places of segregation, places of indentured labour, places of reconciliation

Australian Theme	NSW Theme	Local Theme for the City of Wollongong	Notes	Examples
2 Peopling Australia	Convict	Settling Illawarra Working on the land	Activities relating to incarceration, transport, reform, accommodation and working during the convict period in NSW (1788-1850) – does not include activities associated with the conviction of persons in NSW that are unrelated to the imperial ‘convict system’: use the theme of Law & Order for such activities	Prison, convict shipwreck, convict system document, ticket-of-leave and probationary living quarters, guards uniform, landscapes-of-control, lumber yard, quarry, gallows site, convict-built structure, convict ship arrival site, convict barracks, convict hospital, estate based on convict labour, place of secondary punishment.
2 Peopling Australia	Ethnic influences	Diversifying the community	Activities associated with common cultural traditions and peoples of shared descent, and with exchanges between such traditions and peoples.	Blessing-of-the-fleet site, ethnic community hall, Chinese store, place or object that exhibits an identifiable ethnic background, marriage register, olive grove, date palm plantation, citizenship ceremony site, POW camp, register of ship crews, folk festival site, ethnic quarter in a town.
2 Peopling Australia	Migration	Diversifying the community	Activities and processes associated with the resettling of people from one place to another (international, interstate, intrastate) and the impacts of such movements	Migrant hostel, customs hall, border crossing, immigration papers, bus depot, emigrant shipwreck, Aboriginal mission, quarantine station, works based on migrant labour, detention centre.
3 Developing local, regional and national economies	Agriculture	Settling Illawarra Subdividing the large rural estates Developing a dairy industry Working on the land	Activities relating to the cultivation and rearing of plant and animal species, usually for commercial purposes, can include aquaculture	Hay barn, wheat harvester, silo, dairy, rural landscape, plantation, vineyard, farmstead, shelterbelt, silage pit, fencing, plough markings, shed, fish farm, orchard, market garden, piggery, common, irrigation ditch, Aboriginal seasonal picking camp.

Australian Theme	NSW Theme	Local Theme for the City of Wollongong	Notes	Examples
3 Developing local, regional and national economies	Commerce	Supplying retailing and financial services Supplying liquor and accommodation in hotels	Activities relating to buying, selling and exchanging goods and services	Bank, shop, inn, stock exchange, market place, mall, coin collection, consumer wares, bond store, customs house, trade routes, mint, Aboriginal trading places, Aboriginal ration/blanket distribution points, Aboriginal tourism ventures
3 Developing local, regional and national economies	Communication	Communicating	Activities relating to the creation and conveyance of information	Post office, telephone exchange, printery, radio studio, newspaper office, telegraph equipment, network of telegraph poles, mail boat shipwreck, track, airstrip, lighthouse, stamp collection.
3 Developing local, regional and national economies	Environment - cultural landscape	Subdividing the large rural estates Developing a dairy industry Working on the land	Activities associated with the interactions between humans, human societies and the shaping of their physical surroundings	A landscape type, bushfire fighting equipment, soil conservation structures, national park, nature reserve, market garden, land clearing tools, evidence of Aboriginal land management, avenue of trees, surf beach, fishing spot, plantation, place important in arguments for nature or cultural heritage conservation.
3 Developing local, regional and national economies	Events	All themes	Activities and processes that mark the consequences of natural and cultural occurrences	Monument, photographs, flood marks, memorial, ceremonial costume, honour board, blazed tree, obelisk, camp site, boundary, legislation, place of pilgrimage, places of protest, demonstration, congregation, celebration.
3 Developing local, regional and national economies	Exploration	Settling Illawarra	Activities associated with making places previously unknown to a cultural group known to them.	Explorers route, marked tree, camp site, explorer's journal, artefacts collected on an expedition, captain's log, surveyor's notebook, mountain pass, water source, Aboriginal trade route, landing site, map.

Australian Theme	NSW Theme	Local Theme for the City of Wollongong	Notes	Examples
3 Developing local, regional and national economies	Fishing	Fishing the waters	Activities associated with gathering, producing, distributing, and consuming resources from aquatic environments useful to humans.	Fishing boat, whaling station, marine reserve, fisher camp, seafood factory, fish shop, oyster lease, artificial reef, fishing boat wreck, mooring, dock, marina, wharf, fish farm, fish trap
3 Developing local, regional and national economies	Forestry	Working on the land	Activities associated with identifying and managing land covered in trees for commercial timber purposes.	Forested area, forest reserve, timber plantation, forestry equipment, saw mill, mill settlement, arboretum, charcoal kiln, coppiced trees, forest regrowth, timber tracks, whim.
3 Developing local, regional and national economies	Health	Caring for health	Activities associated with preparing and providing medical assistance and/or promoting or maintaining the well being of humans	Hospital, sanatorium, asylum, surgical equipment, ambulance, nurses quarters, medical school, baby clinic, hospital therapy garden, landscaped grounds, herbalist shop, pharmacy, medical consulting rooms.
3 Developing local, regional and national economies	Industry	Working in workshops, mills or factories Making coke	Activities associated with the manufacture, production and distribution of goods	Factory, workshop, depot, industrial machinery, timber mill, quarry, private railway or wharf, shipbuilding yard, slipway, blacksmithy, cannery, foundry, kiln, smelter, tannery, brewery, factory office, company records.
3 Developing local, regional and national economies	Mining	Opening coal mines on the escarpment Mining	Activities associated with the identification, extraction, processing and distribution of mineral ores, precious stones and other such inorganic substances.	Mine, quarry, race, mining field or landscape, processing plant, manager's office, mineral specimen, mining equipment, mining license, ore laden shipwreck, collier, mine shaft, sluice gate, mineral deposit, slag heap, assay office, water race.

Australian Theme	NSW Theme	Local Theme for the City of Wollongong	Notes	Examples
3 Developing local, regional and national economies	Pastoralism	Settling Illawarra Developing a dairy industry	Activities associated with the breeding, raising, processing and distribution of livestock for human use	Pastoral station, shearing shed, slaughter yard, stud book, photos of prize-winning stock, homestead, pastoral landscape, common, fencing, grassland, well, water trough, freezer boat shipwreck, wool store.
3 Developing local, regional and national economies	Science	Solving technical and scientific problems	Activities associated with systematic observations, experiments and processes for the explanation of observable phenomena	Laboratory, experimental equipment, text book, observatory, botanical garden, arboretum, research station, university research reserve, weather station, soil conservation area, fossil site, archaeological research site.
3 Developing local, regional and national economies	Technology	Solving technical and scientific problems	Activities and processes associated with the knowledge or use of mechanical arts and applied sciences	Computer, telegraph equipment, electric domestic appliances, underwater concrete footings, museum collection, office equipment, Aboriginal places evidencing changes in tool types.
3 Developing local, regional and national economies	Transport	Providing transport by sea Providing transport by road Providing rail transport	Activities associated with the moving of people and goods from one place to another, and systems for the provision of such movements	Railway station, highway, lane, train, ferry, wharf, tickets, carriage, dray, stock route, canal, bridge, footpath, aerodrome, barge, harbour, lighthouse, shipwreck, canal, radar station, toll gate, horse yard, coach stop.

Australian Theme	NSW Theme	Local Theme for the City of Wollongong	Notes	Examples
4 Building settlements, towns and cities	Towns, suburbs and villages	Establishing a regional centre at Wollongong Establishing rural centres Establishing mining villages Creating seaside resorts Developing an urban network to 1948 Creating a city after 1948	Activities associated with creating, planning and managing urban functions, landscapes and lifestyles in towns, suburbs and villages	Town plan, streetscape, village reserve, concentrations of urban functions, civic centre, subdivision pattern, abandoned town site, urban square, fire hydrant, market place, abandoned wharf, relocated civic centre, boundary feature.
4 Building settlements, towns and cities	Land tenure	Settling Illawarra Subdividing the large rural estates Housing in villages and suburbs	Activities and processes for identifying forms of ownership and occupancy of land and water, both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal	Fence, survey mark, subdivision pattern, land title document, boundary hedge, Stone wall, shelterbelt, cliff, river, seawall, rock engravings, shelters & habitation sites, cairn, survey mark, trig station, colonial/state border markers.
4 Building settlements, towns and cities	Utilities	Providing utility services	Activities associated with the provision of services, especially on a communal basis	Water pipeline, sewage tunnel, gas retort, powerhouse, County Council office, garbage dump, windmill, radio tower, bridge, culvert, weir, well, cesspit, reservoir, dam, places demonstrating absence of utilities at Aboriginal fringe camps
4 Building settlements, towns and cities	Accommodation	Rural housing Housing in villages and suburbs	Activities associated with the provision of accommodation, and particular types of accommodation – does not include architectural styles – use the theme of Creative Endeavour for such activities.	Terrace, apartment, semi-detached house, holiday house, hostel, bungalow, mansion, shack, house boat, caravan, cave, humpy, migrant hostel, homestead, cottage, house site (archaeological).

Australian Theme	NSW Theme	Local Theme for the City of Wollongong	Notes	Examples
5 Working	Labour	Working on the land or the sea Mining Working in workshops, mills of factories Uniting to protect working conditions	Activities associated with work practices and organised and unorganised labour	Trade union office, Bundy clock, time-and-motion study (document), union banner, union membership card, strike site, staff change rooms, servants quarters, shearing shed, green ban site, brothel, kitchen, nurses station, hotel with an occupational patronage.
6 Educating	Education	Educating the people	Activities associated with teaching and learning by children and adults, formally and informally.	School, kindergarten, university campus, mechanics institute, playground, hall of residence, text book, teachers college, sail training boat wreck, sports field, seminary, field studies centre, library, physical evidence of academic achievement (e.g. a medal or certificate).
7 Governing	Defence	Defending Illawarra	Activities associated with defending places from hostile takeover and occupation	Battle ground, fortification, RAAF base, barracks, uniforms, military maps and documents, war memorials, shipwreck lost to mines, scuttled naval vessel, POW camp, bomb practice ground, parade ground, massacre site, air raid shelter, drill hall.
7 Governing	Government and administration	Governing	Activities associated with the governance of local areas, regions, the State and the nation, and the administration of public programs – includes both principled and corrupt activities.	Municipal chamber, County Council offices, departmental office, legislative document, symbols of the Crown, State and municipal flags, ballot box, mayoral regalia, places acquired/disposed of by the state, customs boat, pilot boat, site of key event (eg federation, royal visit), protest site, physical evidence of corrupt practices.

Australian Theme	NSW Theme	Local Theme for the City of Wollongong	Notes	Examples
7 Governing	Law and order	Maintaining law and order	Activities associated with maintaining, promoting and implementing criminal and civil law and legal processes	Courthouse, police station, lock-up, protest site, law chambers, handcuffs, legal document, gaol complex, water police boat, police vehicle, jail, prison complex (archaeological), detention centre, judicial symbols
7 Governing	Welfare	Caring for the aged and unfortunate	Activities and process associated with the provision of social services by the state or philanthropic organisations	Orphanage, retirement home, public housing, special school, trades training institution, employment agency.
8 Developing Australia's cultural life	Domestic life	Rural housing Housing in villages or suburbs	Activities associated with creating, maintaining, living in and working around houses and institutions.	Domestic artefact scatter, kitchen furnishings, bed, clothing, garden tools, shed, arrangement of interior rooms, kitchen garden, pet grave, chicken coop, home office, road camp, barrack, asylum.
8 Developing Australia's cultural life	Creative endeavour	Creating artistic works	Activities associated with the production and performance of literary, artistic, architectural and other imaginative, interpretive or inventive works; and/or associated with the production and expression of cultural phenomena; and/or environments that have inspired such creative activities.	Opera house, theatre costume, film studio, writer's studio, parade tableau, manuscripts, sound recording, cinema, exemplar of an architectural style, work of art, craftwork, and/or public garden, bandstand, concert hall, rock art site, rotunda, library, public hall; and/or a, particular place to which there has been a particular creative, stylistic or design response.
8 Developing Australia's cultural life	Leisure	Enjoying leisure Supplying liquor and accommodation in hotels	Activities associated with recreation and relaxation	Resort, ski lodge, chalet, cruise ship, passenger rail carriage, swimming pool, dance hall, hotel, caravan park, tourist brochures, park, beach, clubhouse, lookout, common, bush walking track, Aboriginal Christmas camp site, fishing spot, picnic place, swimming hole.

Australian Theme	NSW Theme	Local Theme for the City of Wollongong	Notes	Examples
8 Developing Australia's cultural life	Religion	Observing religious practices	Activities associated with particular systems of faith and worship	Church, monastery, convent, rectory, presbytery, manse, parsonage, hall, chapter house, graveyard, monument, church organ, synagogue, temple, mosque, madrassa, carved tree, burial ground.
8 Developing Australia's cultural life	Social institutions	Conducting community organisations	Activities and organisational arrangements for the provision of social activities	CWA Room, Masonic hall, School of Arts, Mechanic's Institute, museum, art gallery, RSL Club, public hall, historical society collection, public library, community centre, Aboriginal mission hall or school room.
8 Developing Australia's cultural life	Sport	Enjoying leisure	Activities associated with organised recreational and health promotional activities	Oval, race course, swimming pool, bowling club, bowling green, trophies, calendar of fixtures, cricket set, yacht pens, tennis court, rugby field, speedway, sporting equipment, bocce court.
9 Marking the phases of life	Birth and Death	Entering and leaving worldly existence	Activities associated with the initial stages of human life and the bearing of children, and with the final stages of human life and disposal of the dead.	Birth control clinic, maternity hospital, nursery, baby clinic, baptism register, circumcision equipment, and Hospice, nursing home, funeral parlour, grave furnishings, cremation site, cemetery, burial register, disaster site, memorial plantings, shipwreck with loss of life.
9 Marking the phases of life	Persons	All themes	Activities of, and associations with, identifiable individuals, families and communal groups	A monument to an individual, a family home, a dynastic estate, private chapel, a birthplace, a place of residence, a gendered site, statue, commemorative place name, place dedicated to memory of a person (e.g. hospital wing).

4.0 Recommendations

There are a number of possible projects that could be undertaken in future to enhance the resources available to Wollongong City Council and its community related to heritage.

1. This thematic history should be used as a basis for the review/update of the Wollongong Heritage schedule.
2. The maps showing subdivision dates developed by the author as part of this study and included in Section 8.0 of this report should be further developed to provide a clear understanding of the historic subdivision of Wollongong's suburbs.
3. The Illawarra Historical Society holds a substantial collection of subdivision plans, some of which are unique copies. These plans would be a significant resource for understanding the significance and historical context for any heritage items that are currently listed and for any others that are proposed in future. I recommend that Wollongong City Council approach the Illawarra Historical Society about digitising their map collection, retaining copies for itself and providing a set of digitised images to the Illawarra Historical Society.
4. The migrant heritage of Illawarra is of major significance and it has yet to be fully explored and recorded. Wollongong City Council should encourage and possibly fund studies of the cultural heritage of the diverse migrant groups that live in Illawarra as well as the original Koori/Aboriginal community that lives there. Such studies could include oral history, and the recording folk practices, such as foodways, dance, entertainment, leisure activities and so on.
5. Whilst heritage studies normally examine the built heritage of an area through historical, archaeological, landscape and architectural research coupled with discussions with the community, many aspects of the value of places, are only apparent to the groups that value them such as former employees of a factory or mine that has closed down, Koori/Aboriginal communities and migrant groups. The 'social' significance of places is not always apparent to those outside that group. These aspects are not always appreciated by outsiders creating frictions with the group that value it. It is strongly recommended that Wollongong City Council undertakes studies using consultants with strong credentials and experience in assessing 'social' significance to locate heritage places in Illawarra valued by different social groups.
6. Illawarra possesses a diverse range of migrant communities. It rivals and even surpasses places such as Leichhardt and Fairfield in Sydney with its diversity. Many of these communities produce a range of publications, books, records and memoirs, which are often only distributed amongst their community. Such publications are of considerable value not only for the communities who produce them but also for the wider Australian community. Often these migrant groups lack a permanent central cultural organisation that will collect them. Only a few migrant communities across Australia have archives, which collect books, publications and archival records, such as the Estonian Archives in Australia based in Sydney (<http://archives.eesti.org.au/>).

Wollongong City Council with its excellent library facilities and professionally trained local studies library staff is ideally placed to become a collecting point for migrant publications and records relating to Illawarra. The possibility of expanding the Library's role in collecting migrant publications of Illawarra should be explored.

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Year	Local Government Area	Dwellings				Flats		Hotels Guest Houses etc	Shops & Dwellings	Shops only	Factories	Garages Public	Other	Total	Additions & Alterations
		<i>Brick, Stone, Concrete</i>	<i>Wood or Fibro</i>	<i>Wood</i>	<i>Fibro</i>	<i>New</i>	<i>Conversions</i>								
1925	Central Illawarra													92	
	North Illawarra													76	
	Wollongong													173	
1926	Central Illawarra													68	
	North Illawarra													115	
	Wollongong													109	
1927	Central Illawarra													49	
	North Illawarra													96	
	Wollongong													128	
1928	Central Illawarra													105	
	North Illawarra													103	
	Wollongong													215	
1929	Central Illawarra	27	64						2	2	1	1	1	98	70
	North Illawarra	-	59							3				62	53
	Wollongong	19	227			1			6	17	2	4	3	279	219
1930	Central Illawarra	5	44								1	1		51	92

Year	Local Government Area	Dwellings				Flats		Hotels Guest Houses etc	Shops & Dwellings	Shops only	Factories	Garages Public	Other	Total	Additions & Alterations
		<i>Brick, Stone, Concrete</i>	<i>Wood or Fibro</i>	<i>Wood</i>	<i>Fibro</i>	<i>New</i>	<i>Conversions</i>								
	North Illawarra	-	16						2	2		1		21	45
	Wollongong	8	55						1	5		1	2	72	118
1931	Central Illawarra	-	11										5	16	46
	North Illawarra	1	1											2	36
	Wollongong	-	5										3	8	38
1932	Central Illawarra	6	11						1				2	20	71
	North Illawarra	-	11										1	12	29
	Wollongong	2	15							1				18	62
1933	Central Illawarra	3	31										27	61	50
	North Illawarra	-	16										5	21	64
	Wollongong	6	25										1	32	55
1934	Central Illawarra*	18	119						2			1	13	153	65
	North Illawarra	1	33								2			36	60
	Wollongong	21	116			2					1	1		141	99
1935	North Illawarra	1	61							1				63	63
	Wollongong	39	94			8				5				146	113
1936	North	-	71							1			2	72	80

Year	Local Government Area	Dwellings				Flats		Hotels Guest Houses etc	Shops & Dwellings	Shops only	Factories	Garages Public	Other	Total	Additions & Alterations
		<i>Brick, Stone, Concrete</i>	<i>Wood or Fibro</i>	<i>Wood</i>	<i>Fibro</i>	<i>New</i>	<i>Conversions</i>								
	Illawarra														
	Wollongong	55	160			5			3	8	3	1	1	236	157
1937	Central Illawarra	116	187					4	20		14	2	2	345	144
	North Illawarra	8	91						2	1		1	1	104	108
	Wollongong	52	184			17		1	4	17			2	277	193
1938	Central Illawarra	75	236					4	15	1	12	9	12	364	119
	North Illawarra	14	214						2	6	1			237	87
	Wollongong	44	238			14		1	3	16	1	4	4	325	160
1939	Central Illawarra	33	178					2	1	4		2	12	232	118
	North Illawarra	14	189						1	3		2	3	212	113
	Wollongong	36	141			2			2	4			6	191	164
1940	Central Illawarra	27	118						3	1	3		12	164	71
	North Illawarra	7	122						2	1	2	1		135	74
	Wollongong	43	94			1			1	6	1		6	152	126
1941	Central Illawarra	36	165							1	2		8	212	64
	North Illawarra	9	150						1	2			2	164	87
	Wollongong	43	134			3				3		1	4	188	117

Year	Local Government Area	Dwellings				Flats		Hotels Guest Houses etc	Shops & Dwellings	Shops only	Factories	Garages Public	Other	Total	Additions & Alterations
		<i>Brick, Stone, Concrete</i>	<i>Wood or Fibro</i>	<i>Wood</i>	<i>Fibro</i>	<i>New</i>	<i>Conversions</i>								
1942	Central Illawarra	7	38						1		2			48	12
	North Illawarra	-	31							1				32	44
	Wollongong	10	10											20	55
1943	Central Illawarra	-	5											5	37
	North Illawarra	-	18										1	19	95
	Wollongong	1	4										2	7	64
1944	Central Illawarra	1	8									1		10	65
	North Illawarra	3	14											17	64
	Wollongong	1	8								2			11	93
1945	Central Illawarra	22	44							2	1		1	70	82
	North Illawarra	21	145								9			175	128
	Wollongong	10	31							1	3			45	139
1946	Central Illawarra	15	102					2	4	2	5	2	7	139	106
	North Illawarra	48	197						3	5	4	1	2	260	119
	Wollongong	30	32			2			2	1	3	1	4	75	132
1947	Greater Wollongong	189		60	517	5	2	4	9	9	18		26	839	

Year	Local Government Area	Dwellings				Flats		Hotels Guest Houses etc	Shops & Dwellings	Shops only	Factories	Garages Public	Other	Total	Additions & Alterations
		<i>Brick, Stone, Concrete</i>	<i>Wood or Fibro</i>	<i>Wood</i>	<i>Fibro</i>	<i>New</i>	<i>Conversions</i>								
1948	Greater Wollongong	229		114	519	8			7	1	12		20	910	
1949	Greater Wollongong	261		282	523	8		1	18		12		14	1119	
1950	Greater Wollongong	242		332	360	3		1	34	3	5		17	997	
1951	Greater Wollongong	290		358	316	4	5		21	3	32		15	1044	
1952	Greater Wollongong	203		222	302	2	4		18	5	8		32	796	
1953	Greater Wollongong	200		329	455	5		1	12	20	6		32	1060	
1954	Greater Wollongong	214		395	460	7	2	2	10	26	10		43	1169	
1955	Greater Wollongong	236		406	434	11	1	8	9	20	7		43	1175	

* Not included after constituted as shire on 7 September 1934

7.0 Manufacturers in Greater Wollongong 1945

Locality	Firm	Manufacturing Activity
Bellambi	Bellambi Coal Co Pty Ltd	Colliery
	Martin Bros	Sawmill
Bulli	Australian Iron & Steel Ltd	Bulli Colliery
	J Vicars & Co Pty Ltd	Wool spinning
	Molloy Bros	Sawmill
Clifton	Coalcliff Collieries Ltd	Colliery
	Illawarra Coke Co Ltd	Coke works
Corrimal	Corrimal Coal & Coke Pty Ltd	Colliery
	Southern Pipe & Tile Co	Earthenware pipes & tiles
	B & W Steel Pty Ltd	Steel products
	A G Howchin & A B Heather	Electroplating tools & surgical instruments
	Ryan & Moore	Cordials
	Streets Ice Cream Pty Ltd	Ice cream & ice works
	H A Cram	Sawmiller
	W N Mascord	Electric joinery
	City of Greater Wollongong (North Illawarra)	Subsidiary electricity supply
Dapto	Dairy Farmers Co-op Milk Co Ltd	Butter, pasteurised milk and ice
	Illawarra Meat Co	Butter, pasteurised milk and ice
Fairy Meadow	Wollongong Cordials	Aerated waters & cordials
	Lockett Bros	Sauces, canned fruit, etc
Helensburgh	Metropolitan Colliery	Colliery
	Leathercraft	Men's clothing & military trousers
Port Kembla	Lake George Mines Ltd	Quarry
	Monier Industries Ltd	Concrete pipes. Etc
	Newbold General Refractories Ltd	Silica refractories
	Australian Fertilisers Ltd	Fertiliser
	Commonwealth Oil Refineries	
	Commonwealth Oxygen & Acetylene Ltd	Industrial gases
	Australian Scale Co Pty Ltd	

Locality	Firm	Manufacturing Activity
	Australian Iron & Steel Ltd	Steel ingots, pig iron, iron castings, steel, etc
	B & W Steel Pty Ltd	Structural engineers
	Commonwealth Rolling Mills Pty Ltd	Steel sheet
	Electrolytic Refining & Smelting Co of Australia Ltd	Bearing metals, etc
	Garnock Engineering Co	
	A E Goodwin Pty Ltd	Manufacturing engineers
	E E T Jones	Structural engineers
	Lysaghts Newcastle Works Pty Ltd	Galvanised iron, black steel sheets
	Metal Manufacturers Ltd	Copper wire, stranded conductors, cables, cotton covered wire, etc
	Port Kembla Structural Engineering Co (E E T Jones)	Structural steel fabrication, oxy-acetylene & electrical welding, boilermaking, etc
	Thirlwell & Mackenzie	Marine engineers
	David Bros Pty Ltd	Steel, iron & brass castings
Scarborough	Vickery & Sons	Colliery (South Clifton Tunnel)
Thirroul	Excelsior Collieries & Coke Works	Colliery
	South Coast Colliery	Colliery
	Newbold General Refractories Ltd	Fireclay refractories
	Hardy Rubber Co	Rubber goods
	J H Jones & Co	Men's shirts
Wollongong	Australian Iron & Steel Ltd	Collieries
	Federal Coke Co	
	Mt Kembla Colliery	
	Mt Pleasant Coke Co Pty Ltd	
	St George Lime & Cement Co	Mortars & builders' supplies
	South Coast Lime & Mortar Co	Lime & ready mixed mortar
	Wilton & McCloy Pty Ltd	Fibrous plaster manufacturers
	Newbold Silica Fire Brick Co Ltd	
	Wollongong Brick Works	
	Wollongong Glass & Leaded Light Co	Glass & metal tray

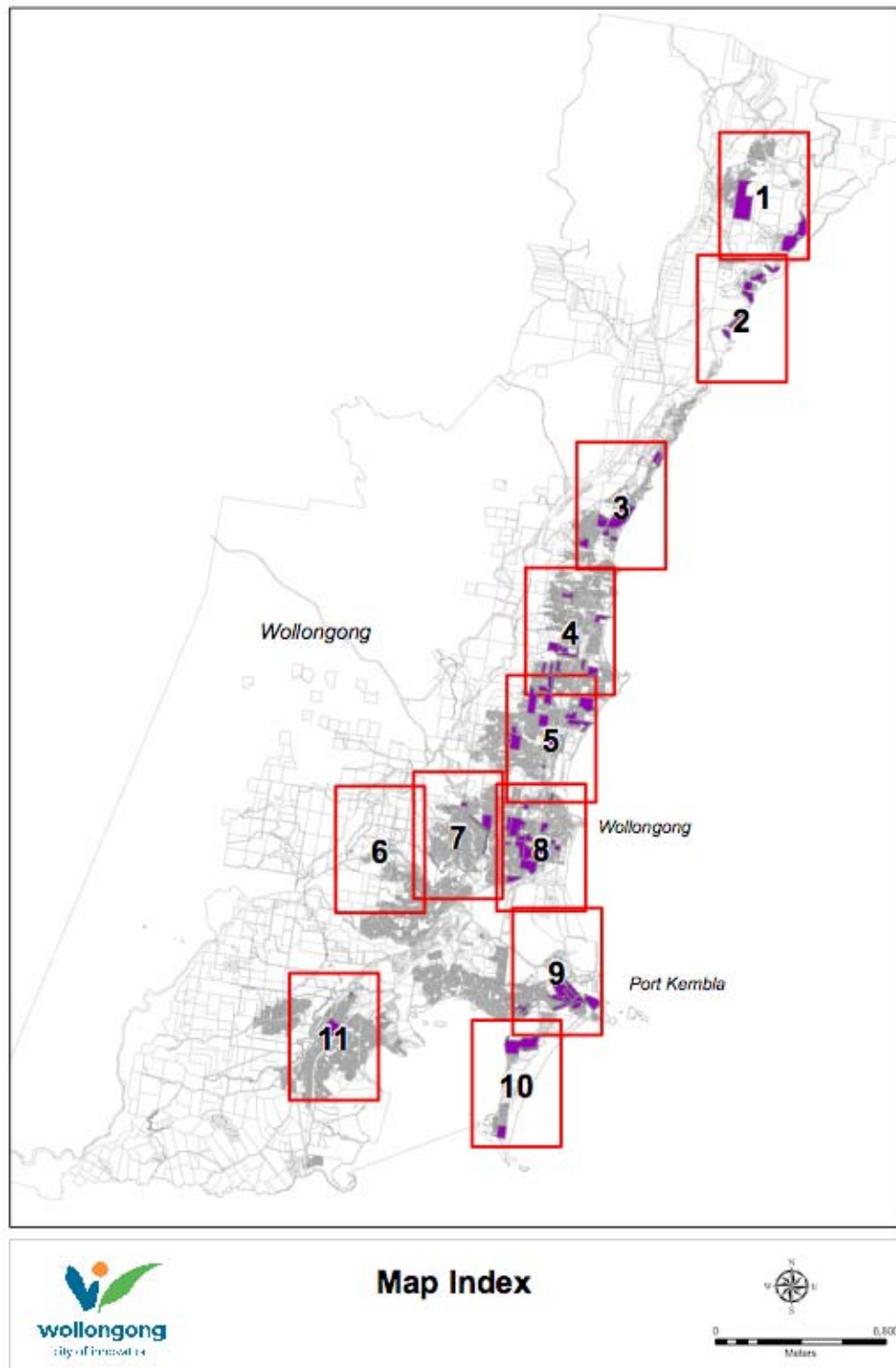
Locality	Firm	Manufacturing Activity
	Commonwealth Oil Refineries Ltd	
	Commonwealth Rolling Mills Pty Ltd	
	David Bros Ltd	Iron & steel foundries
	Hit or Miss Foundry	
	Pioneer Electroplating Works	
	Shipp Bros	Coach & motor builders
	Lawrence & Hansen Electrical Pty Ltd	Electrical engineers
	W P Stevens	Electroplaters
	Australian Iron & Steel Ltd	Coke works – pipes for general purposes
	Australian Silknit Ltd	Textile manufacturer, knitwear
	Champion Knitting Mills	Knitwear
	D H Lumgrew	Miscellaneous leather goods, gloves, aprons, gaiters, etc
	Crystal Shirt Co	Men's shirts & pyjamas
	Duncan & Sons Pty Ltd	Clothing manufacturer
	L E Isaacs Pty Ltd	Clothing
	L Black (Mrs S C Ward)	Men's & women's tailoring
	Stirling Henry Ltd	Women's outerwear
	J R & M Scott	Women's outerwear
	Berlei Ltd	Corsets
	Freidelle	Children's outerwear
	Fostars Shoes Pty Ltd	
	Alpen Sales Pty Ltd	Chocolates
	T McMahon	Ice works
	Riverstone Meat Co Pty Ltd	Meat preserving
	South Coast Meat Co Ltd	Meat preserving
	Streets Ice Cream Pty Ltd	Ice & ice cream
	Wheeldon & Marks	Cordial manufacturers
	Dairy Farmers Co-operative Milk Co	Milk distributors
	G A Beswick	Joiner
	W H Comb & G T Sassall	Joinery works
	G R Hanley	Joinery & woodworking
	Wollongong Timber & Builders' Supply Co	
	Sonco Printery	Printers
	South Coast Advertiser	Newspaper & printers
	South Coast Times	Newspaper & printers

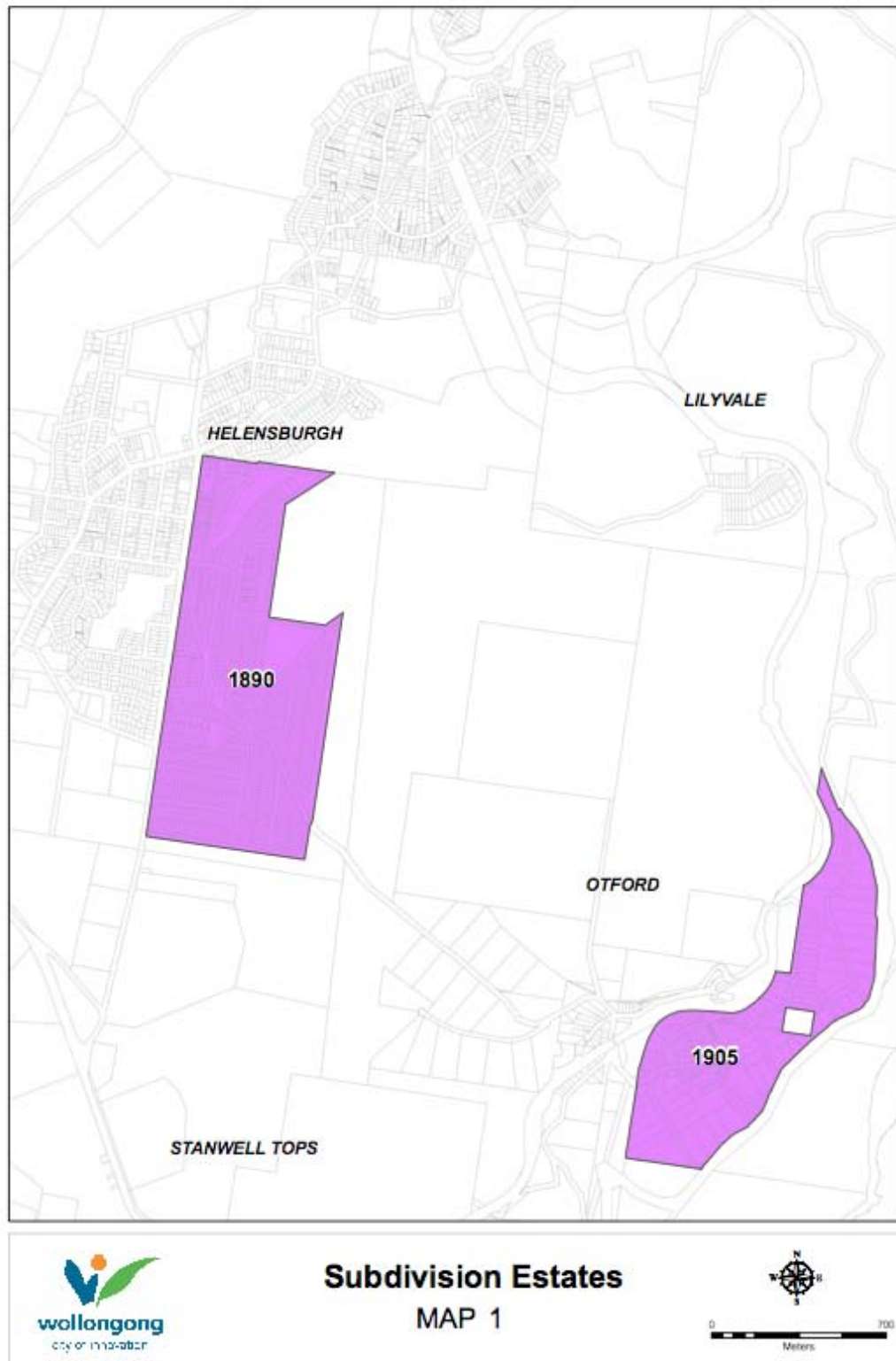
Locality	Firm	Manufacturing Activity
	Waller & Johnstone	Printers
	Wollongong Advance Newspaper	Newspaper & printers
	Illawarra Mercury	Newspaper & printers
	Optical Prescriptions	Spectacle makers
	Silvolene Co	Dental products
	Wollongong Gaslight Co	Gas works
	Illawarra Electrical Co	Electrical appliances
	City of Greater Wollongong	Electricity undertaking
Woonona	Illawarra Fireclay & Brick Co	Brick works
	T Pendlebury & Sons Ltd	Fire bricks, building bricks & vitrified bricks
	J Vicars & Co Pty Ltd	Wool spinning

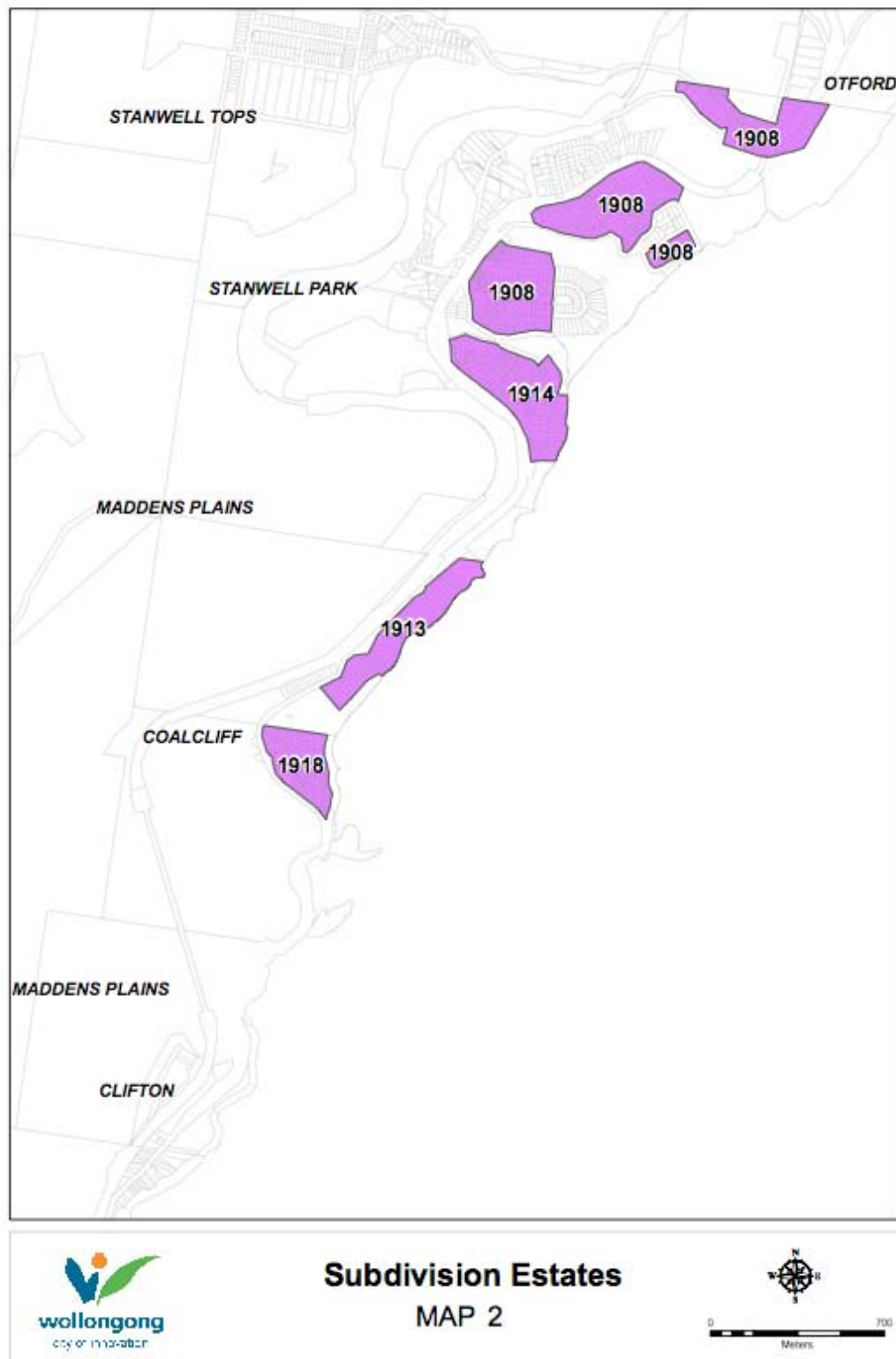
Source: NSW - Premier's Department – Division of Reconstruction and Development, *The Illawarra Region: A preliminary survey of resources*, Government Printer, Sydney, 1948, pp 26-9

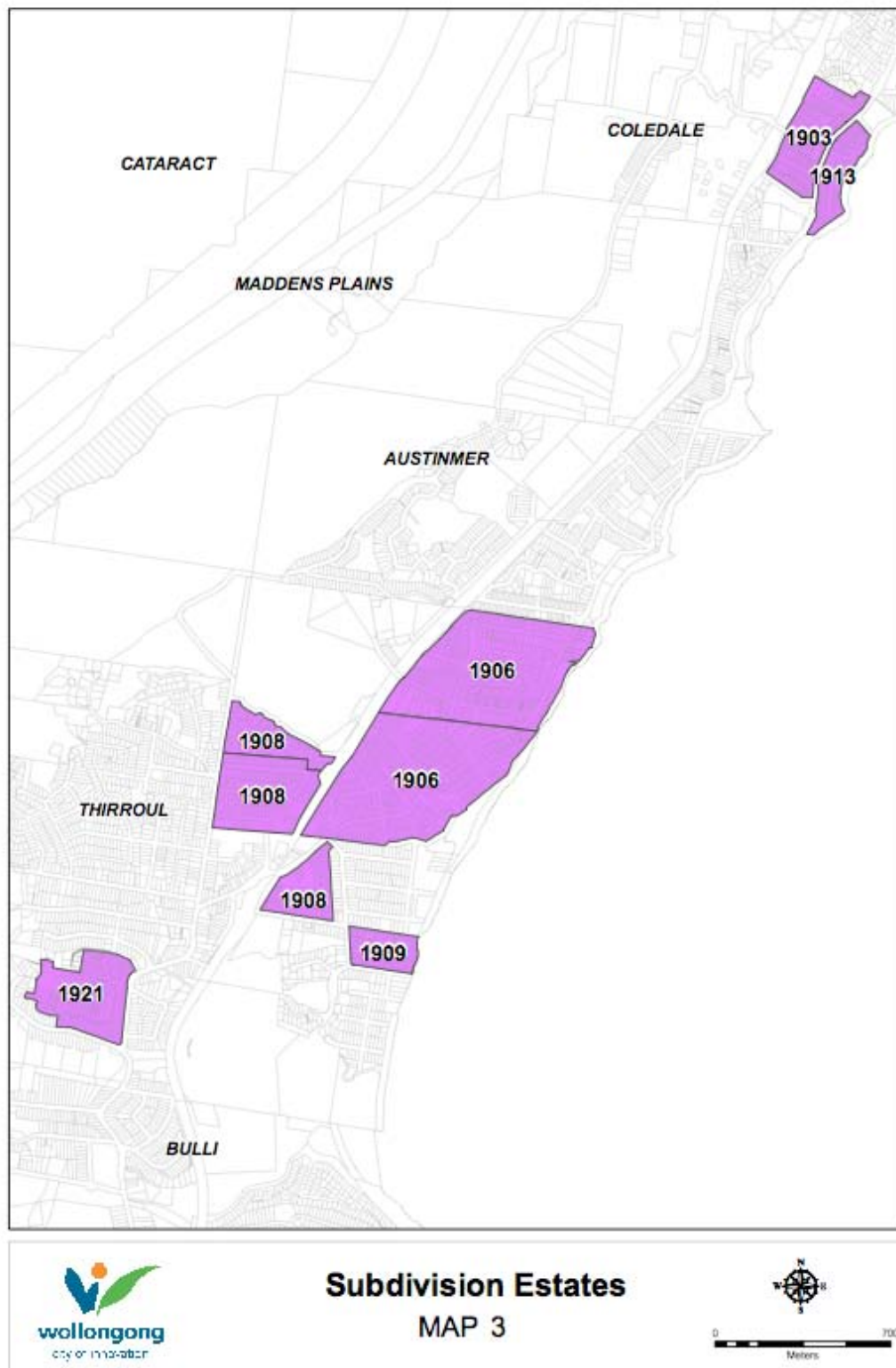
8.0 Maps Showing Subdivision Dates

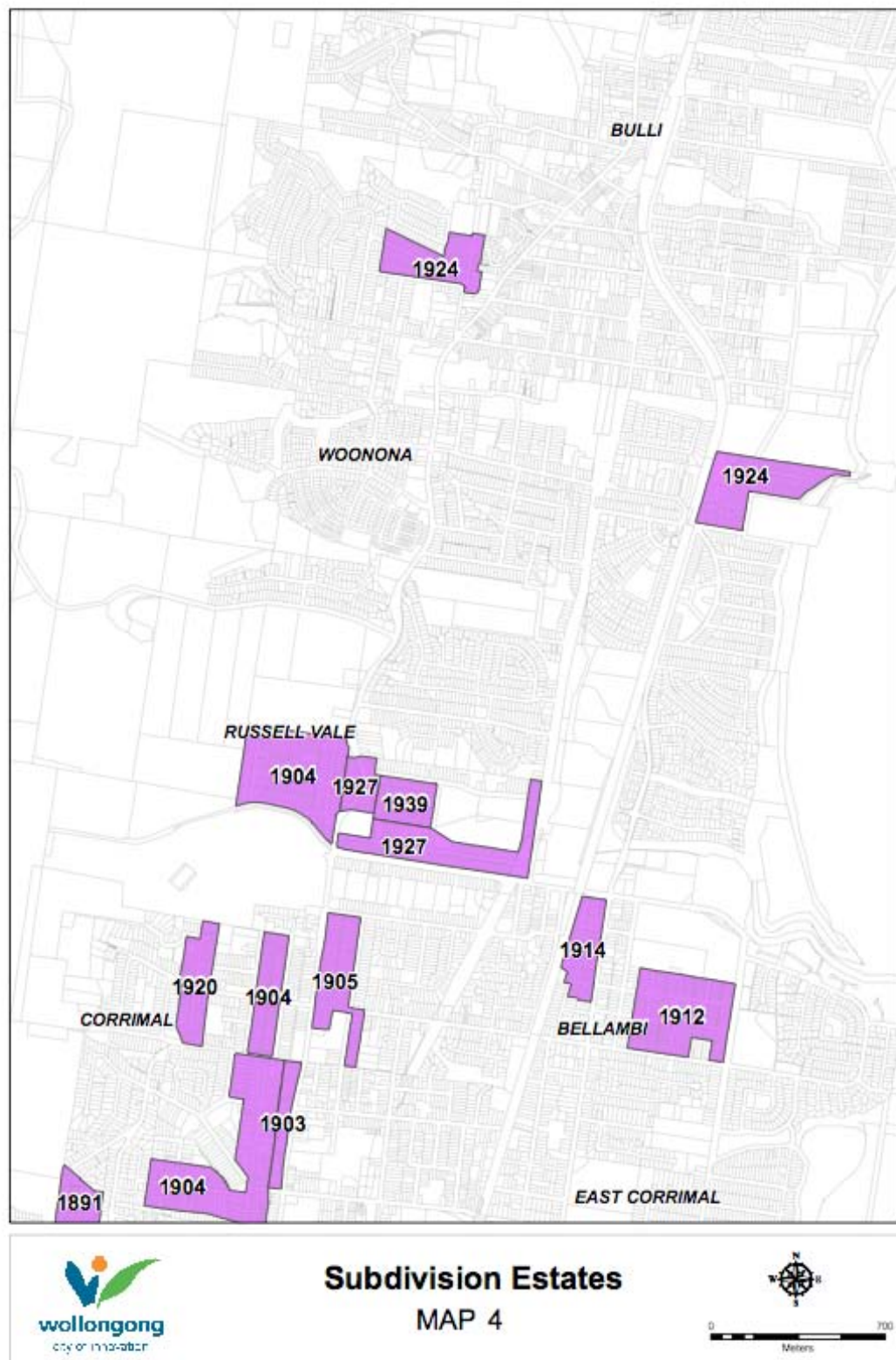
The historical subdivision maps included below are not a thorough collection of historical subdivision maps for the Wollongong area but only an initial starting point.

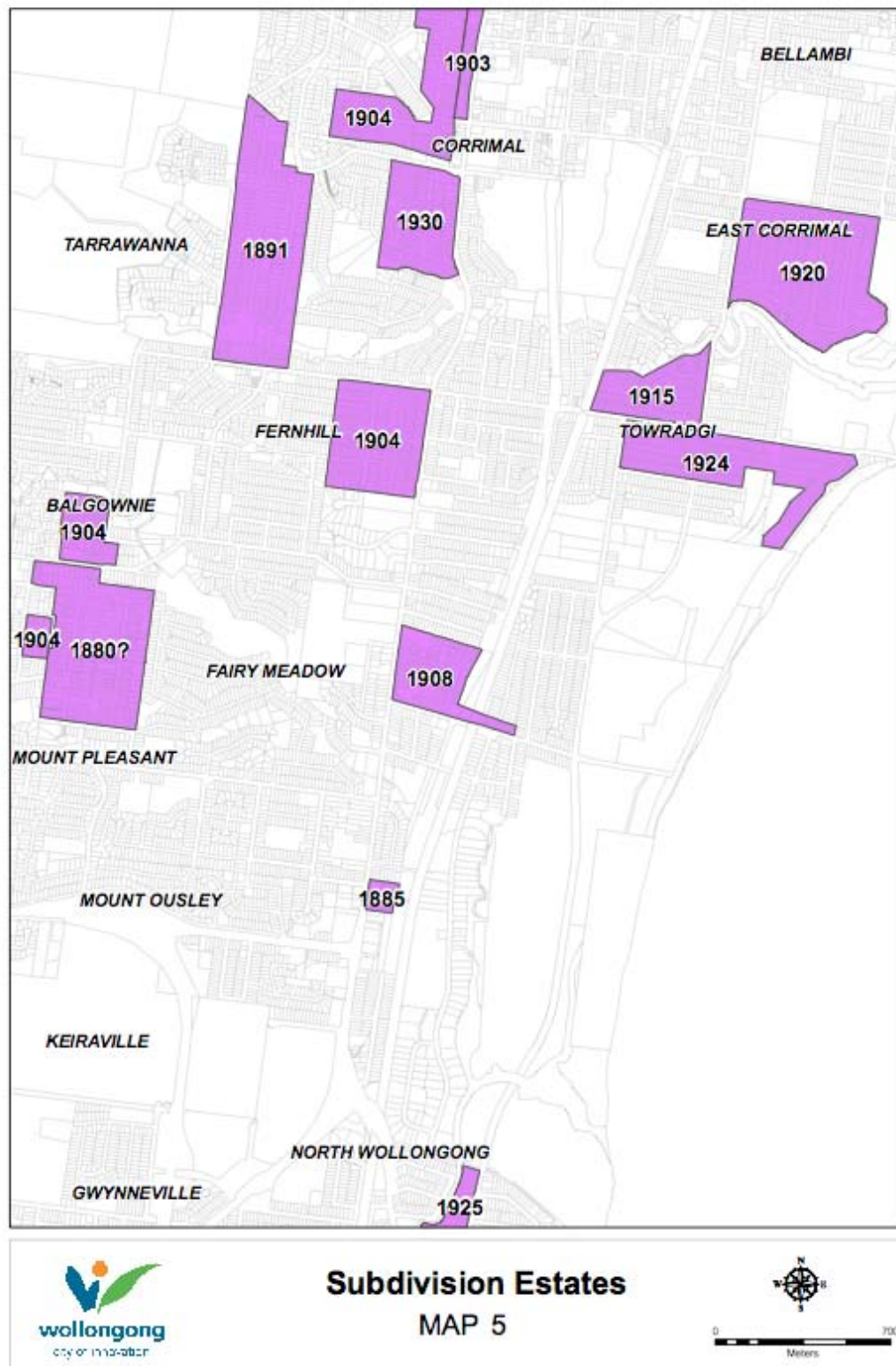




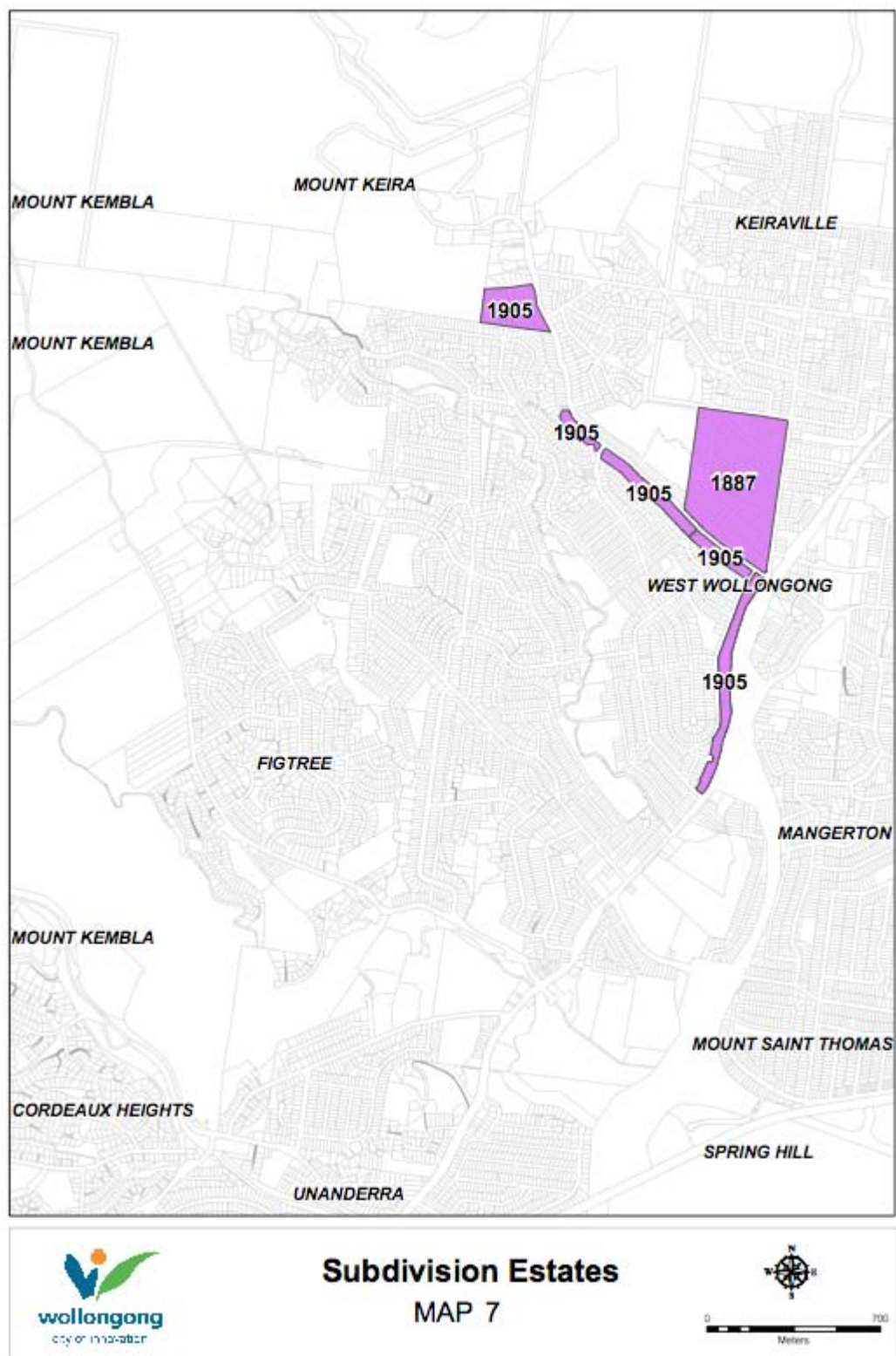


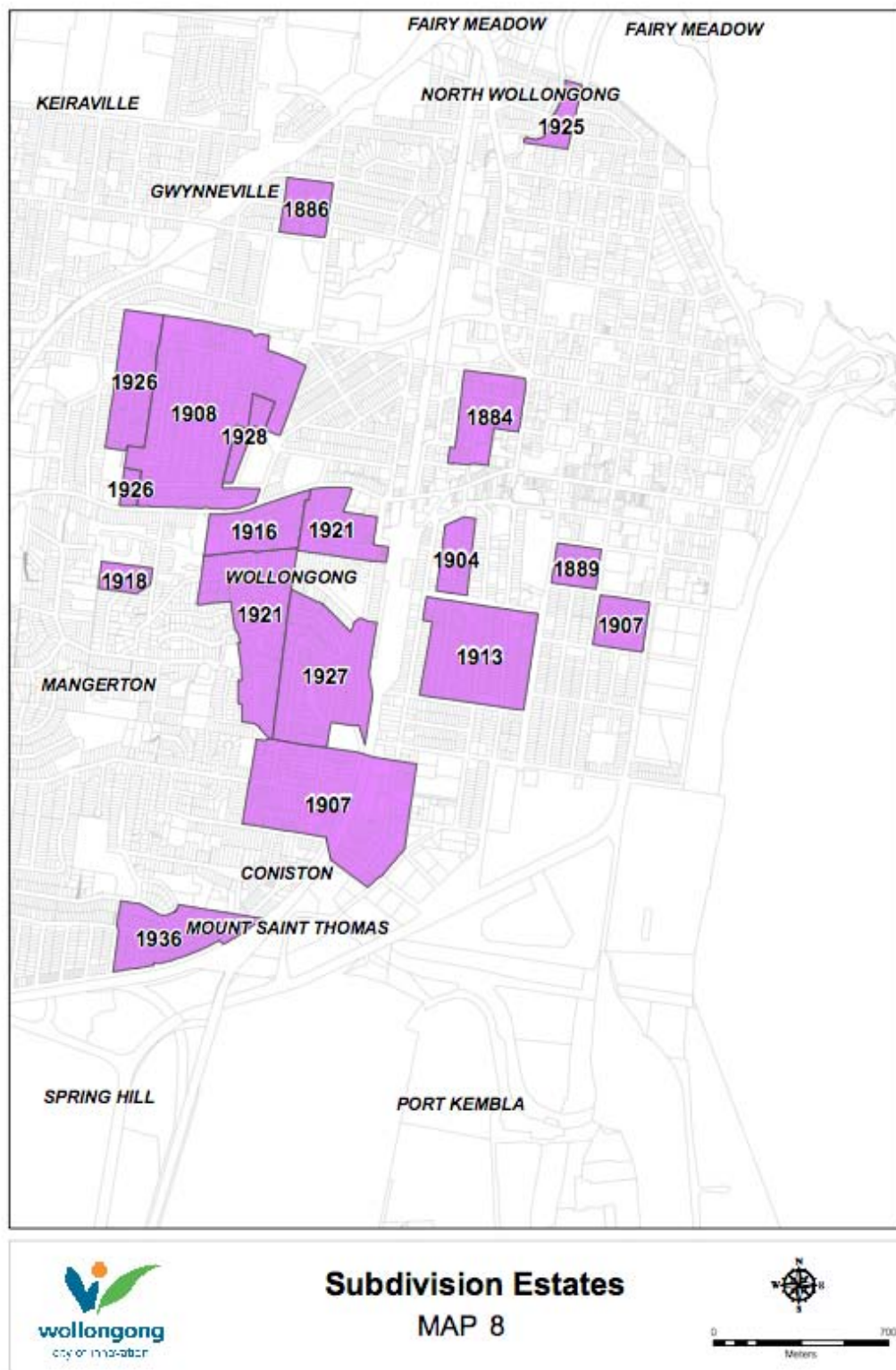


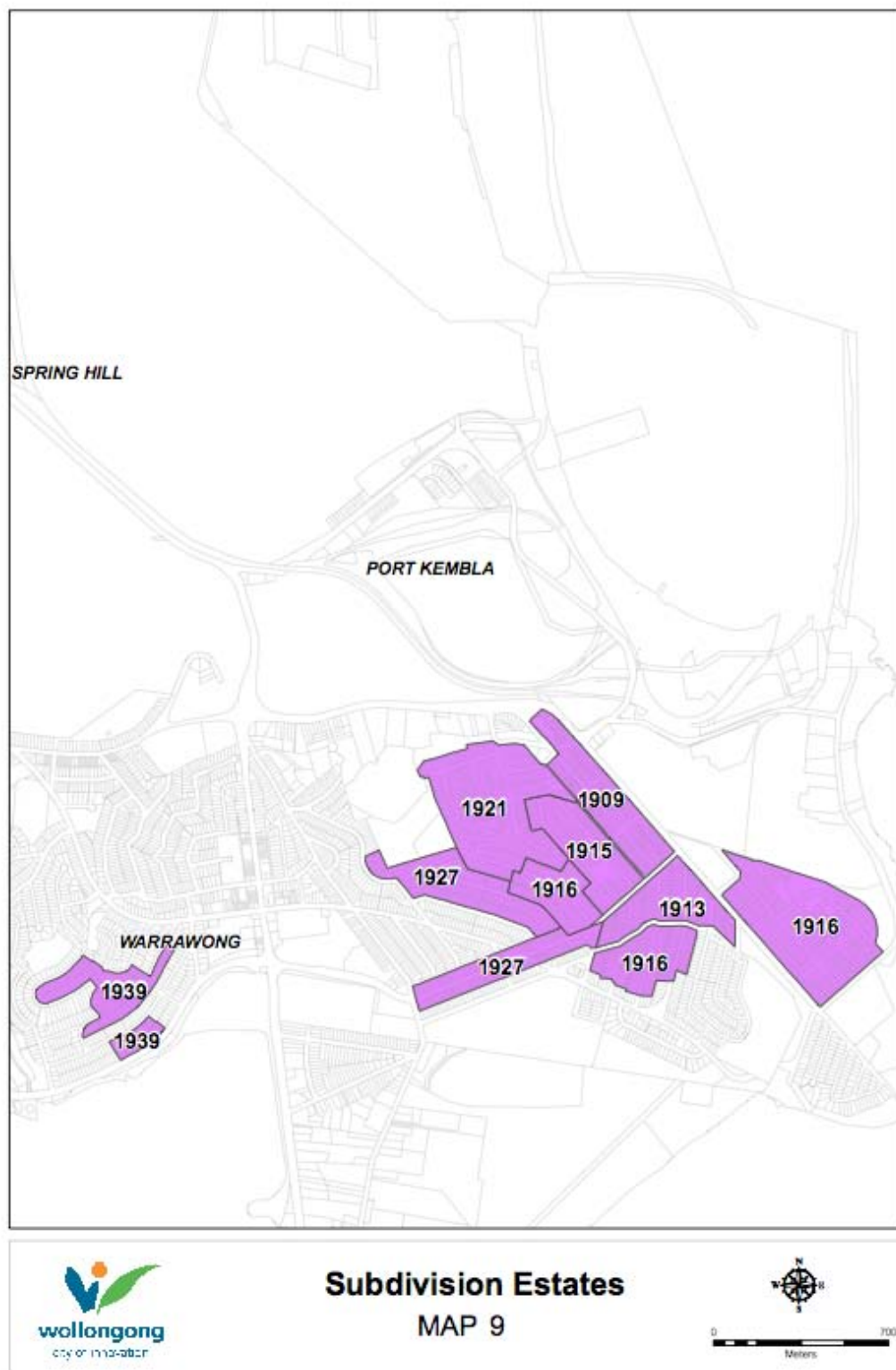




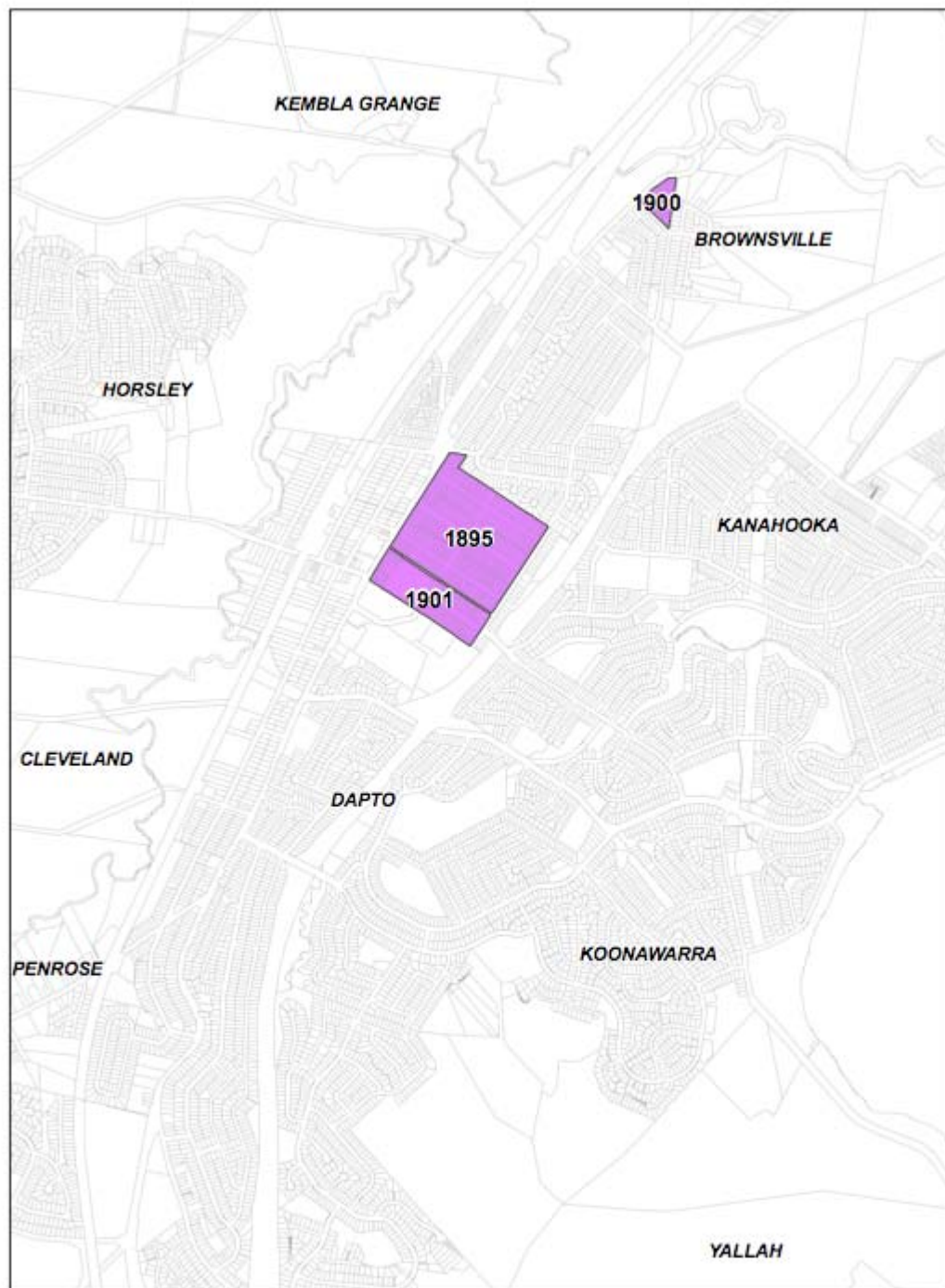












Subdivision Estates MAP 11



9.0 Table of Wollongong Themes and Secondary Themes

Context	Theme - Main	Theme - Other	Secondary Themes
<i>1.1 The Natural Landscape</i>			
<i>1.2 Occupation by Aboriginal Peoples/Kooris</i>	1.2.1 Living in harmony with the land		Country as giver of life Following songlines/storylines (Five Islands, Mount Keira) Gathering food Producing implements Finding shelter
	1.2.2 Coping with invasion		Fighting inter-tribal battles (Battle site, Fairy Creek) Leading white intruders to the Five Islands (Throsby's track) Coping with invasion Actively resisting the invader Resisting loss of land and customs (Figtree Park) Losing country (Hill 60, Port

Context	Theme - Main	Theme - Other	Secondary Themes
			Kembla) Losing people
	1.2.3 Maintaining a cultural identity		Learning to interact Dealing with a controlled environment Being forced to assimilate (Lake Illawarra Aboriginal Reserve site) Keeping family together Acknowledging wrongs committed by the early invaders Suffering inequality in employment, housing, education and health Working together to protect country (Hill 60; Sandon Point) Maintaining an attachment to country (Hill 60; public art)
1.3 Settlement	1.3.1 Settling Illawarra		Leading white European settlers to the Five Islands District (Throsby's track)

Context	Theme - Main	Theme - Other	Secondary Themes
			<p>Occupying large grants (Marshall Mount)</p> <p>Using assigned convict labour</p> <p>Clearing land</p> <p>Finding transport routes down the escarpment</p> <p>Experimenting with crops</p>
	1.3.2 Establishing a regional centre at Wollongong		<p>Establishing administrative services (Former Wollongong Courthouse and former Customs House, Cliff Road)</p> <p>Creating a working harbour (Wollongong Harbour)</p> <p>Using convict labour</p> <p>Setting up shops and services (Brighton Hotel site)</p>
	1.3.3 Subdividing the large rural estates		<p>Clearing land</p> <p>Farming grains and vegetables</p>

Context	Theme - Main	Theme - Other	Secondary Themes
			Milling grain
	1.3.4 Developing a dairy industry		<p>Raising dairy cattle</p> <p>Breeding improved dairy cattle</p> <p>Improving pastures</p> <p>Operating farms as dairy complexes (Marshall Mount; Horsley, Bong Bong Road, West Dapto)</p> <p>Forming co-operative societies</p> <p>Processing dairy products</p> <p>Creating a dairying landscape</p>
	1.3.5 Opening coal mines on the escarpment		<p>Finding coal on the escarpment (Coalcliff Cliff mine)</p> <p>Digging coal from easily accessed places on the escarpment</p> <p>Transporting coal to coastal jetties by road (Route of first load of coal from Mount Keira mine)</p> <p>Transporting coal to coastal jetties</p>

Context	Theme - Main	Theme - Other	Secondary Themes
			<p>by private tramway or railway (Bulli tramway bridge; Mount Pleasant and Mount Keira tramways)</p> <p>Shipping coal to market by sea</p> <p>Accommodating miners and their families (Miners' cottages, 438-446, 443-5, 449, 453-5 Lawrence Hargrave Drive, Scarborough; Kembla Heights Heritage Conservation Area)</p> <p>Rescuing miners</p> <p>Memorialising mine disasters (Mount Kembla mine memorial, Cemetery, Cordeaux Road, Mount Kembla)</p> <p>Improving mine safety</p> <p>Moving coal mining west of the escarpment</p>
	1.3.6 The emergence of urban settlements and villages	1.3.6.1 Theme - Establishing rural centres	<p>Providing retail services</p> <p>Orcharding</p>

Context	Theme - Main	Theme - Other	Secondary Themes
			<p>Building up community facilities (Former West Dapto Public School, Sheaffes Road, West Dapto)</p> <p>Servicing the population (Former Lake Illawarra Hotel, Dapto)</p>
		1.3.6.2 Establishing mining villages	<p>Housing miners and their families (Slab former miner's cottage, 200 Princes Highway, Bulli; Mount Kembla miners' cottages, Kembla Heights)</p> <p>Providing retail services (Former Denmark Hotel, 202 Princes Highway, Bulli)</p> <p>Establishing religious facilities (Roman Catholic Church, 356 Cordeaux Road, Mount Kembla)</p> <p>Building a community culture (Woonona/Bulli School of Arts, 479 Princes Highway, Bulli)</p> <p>Supplying and maintaining mining equipment and</p>

Context	Theme - Main	Theme - Other	Secondary Themes
			consumables
		1.3.6.3 Creating seaside resorts	<p>Subdividing and promoting seaside estates (Subdivision layout, Stanwell Park)</p> <p>Changing mining villages into seaside resorts (Austinmer Heritage Conservation Area)</p> <p>Providing retail services</p> <p>Establishing bathing and swimming facilities (Austinmer Baths, Lawrence Hargrave Drive, Austinmer)</p> <p>Forming surf life saving clubs (North Beach Surf Club, North Wollongong)</p>
	1.3.7 Developing an urban network to 1948		<p>Providing retail services for an industrial town (Wentworth Street, Port Kembla)</p> <p>Accommodating industrial workers</p> <p>Accommodating industrial managerial and professional staff</p>

Context	Theme - Main	Theme - Other	Secondary Themes
	1.3.8 Creating a city after 1948		<p>Housing post-war migrants and their families</p> <p>Living in hostels (Balgownie Hostel, Montague Street, Fairy Meadow)</p> <p>Diversifying the housing stock</p> <p>Exploring diverse foods</p>
<i>1.4 Making a Living</i>	1.4.1 Working on the land		<p>Working for private persons as an assigned convict</p> <p>Returning convicts to civil society</p> <p>Labouring on rural properties</p> <p>Working on dairy farms ('Glen Ayre', Sheaffes Road, West Dapto, including cow stalls)</p> <p>Hunting</p>
	1.4.2 Fishing the waters		<p>Fishing (Berkeley Harbour)</p> <p>Hunting and processing whales</p>
	1.4.3 Mining	1.4.3.1 Making coke	
	1.4.4 Working in workshops, mills or factories		Processing animal products

Context	Theme - Main	Theme - Other	Secondary Themes
			<p>Processing agricultural products</p> <p>Milling timber</p> <p>Building and operating harbour facilities</p> <p>Operating private railways</p> <p>Constructing public works</p> <p>Building ships and boats</p> <p>Distilling kerosene (Site of former Pioneer Kerosene Works, Between American Creek & Cordeaux Road, Mount Kembla)</p> <p>Making steel (AIS steelworks)</p> <p>Smelting non-ferrous metals (Former Dapto smelter, Kanahooka Road, Kanahooka)</p> <p>Turning metals into semi-finished or finished products (Metal Manufacturers works, Port Kembla)</p>

Context	Theme - Main	Theme - Other	Secondary Themes
			Refining salt (Saltworks site, North Beach, Wollongong) Producing dairy products Celebrating work
	1.4.5 Uniting to protect working conditions		Uniting to defend and improve working conditions Expressing union solidarity Changing society through direct action Creating facilities for workers (Miners' club room, Cordeaux Road, Kembla Heights) Enduring unemployment
<i>1.5 Housing and Accommodation</i>	1.5.1 Rural housing		Providing temporary shelter Using available materials such as cabbage tree palms or timber slabs ('Lindbrook', South Avondale Road) Sheltering the settler (Slab hut,

Context	Theme - Main	Theme - Other	Secondary Themes
			<p>Reddalls Road, Kembla Grange; Glengarry Cottage, West Dapto))</p> <p>Building homesteads (Horsley; Marshall Mount)</p> <p>Creating domestic gardens and landscapes (Marshall Mount)</p>
	1.5.2 Housing in villages and suburbs		<p>Providing accommodation for managers and professionals (“Gleniffer Brae”, Wollongong Botanic Gardens, Off Murphy’s Avenue, Gwynneville)</p> <p>Housing the worker (33 Smith Street, Wollongong; 73-75 Campbell Street, Wollongong)</p> <p>Using available materials</p> <p>Accommodating public servants (Station Master’s Residence, Dapto Railway Station)</p> <p>Using pre-fabricated buildings</p> <p>Occupying accommodation provided by employers (Company</p>

Context	Theme - Main	Theme - Other	Secondary Themes
			<p>houses, 4-10 Junction Street, Helensburgh; Miners' cottages, Kembla Heights)</p> <p>Increasing home ownership</p> <p>Living in temporary accommodation when unemployed (Shacks, Bulgo, Royal National Park)</p> <p>Living in temporary accommodation due to housing shortages</p> <p>Living in hostels (Former Balgownie Migrant Hostel)</p> <p>Living in housing units (Epping Court Flats, Gipps & Corrimal Streets, Wollongong; 'California' 7-9 Burelli Street, Wollongong)</p> <p>Redeeming a debt to war veterans</p> <p>Applying craft skills (Shops, 135-145 Keira Street, Wollongong)</p>

Context	Theme - Main	Theme - Other	Secondary Themes
			<p>Supplying building materials</p> <p>Accommodating group communities</p> <p>Responding to need</p> <p>Creating domestic gardens and landscapes (“Gleniffer Brae”, Wollongong Botanic Gardens, Off Murphy’s Avenue, Gwynneville)</p>
<i>1.6 Servicing the Community</i>	1.6.1 Transport - sea, road, rail and air	<p>1.6.1.1 Providing transport by sea</p> <p>1.6.1.2 Providing transport by road</p> <p>1.6.1.3 Providing rail transport</p>	<p>Moving people and goods by ship (Belmore Basin, Wollongong)</p> <p>Making sea transport safer (Lighthouse, Flagstaff Hill, Wollongong)</p> <p>Shifting goods</p> <p>Following Aboriginal pathways (Throsby’s track)</p> <p>Negotiating routes down the escarpment</p> <p>Building government railways (Railway tunnels, Lilyvale siding)</p>

Context	Theme - Main	Theme - Other	Secondary Themes
			<p>Maintaining government railways</p> <p>Moving coal in private tramways to railways (Bulli tramway bridge)</p> <p>Using horse-drawn transport</p> <p>Sheltering horses (Pit pony stables, Off Farmborough Road, Mount Kembla)</p> <p>Building and maintaining roads</p> <p>Using motorised transport</p> <p>Providing garage, refueling and repair services for road vehicles</p> <p>Improving road safety</p>
	1.6.2 Communicating		<p>Maintaining a postal network (Illawarra Historical Society Museum – Former Wollongong Post Office, Market Street; Postman's track between Lukin Street & Railway Station, Helensburgh)</p>

Context	Theme - Main	Theme - Other	Secondary Themes
			<p>Publishing and printing newspapers</p> <p>Laying down telegraph communications</p> <p>Setting up a telephone network</p> <p>Developing the internet</p>
	1.6.3 Providing utility services		<p>Providing a town water supply</p> <p>Providing reticulated town water</p> <p>Disposing of sewage</p> <p>Supplying gas</p> <p>Generating electricity</p> <p>Supplying businesses and homes with electricity</p> <p>Protecting people and property from fire (Bulli Fire Station)</p> <p>Providing ambulance services</p>
	1.6.4 Supplying liquor and		Supplying liquor (Imperial Hotel,

Context	Theme - Main	Theme - Other	Secondary Themes
	accommodation in hotels		<p>Lawrence Hargrave Drive, Clifton)</p> <p>Offering hotel accommodation (Denmark Hotel and Stables, 202 Princes Highway, Bulli)</p> <p>Providing hotel-based entertainments</p>
	1.6.5 Observing religious practices		<p>Observing religious practices in privately owned properties</p> <p>Maintaining religious practices (Methodist Church & Manse, 96 Princes Highway, Bulli)</p> <p>Celebrating religious festivals</p> <p>Creating gardens and landscapes</p> <p>Diversifying religious belief (Nan Tien Buddhist Temple complex, Berkeley)</p>
	1.6.6 Educating the people		<p>Educating the young (Helensburgh Primary School, Lukin Street, Helensburgh)</p> <p>Operating private schools (St</p>

Context	Theme - Main	Theme - Other	Secondary Themes
			<p>Mary's Convent & Secondary Girl's School)</p> <p>Operating schools based on religion</p> <p>Offering post-secondary education</p> <p>Providing trade training (Thirroul Railway Institute, Thirroul; West Wollongong TAFE, Gladstone Avenue, Wollongong)</p> <p>Educating the worker</p>
	1.6.7 Supplying retailing and financial services		<p>Retailing goods</p> <p>Running worker co-operatives (Woonona Industrial Co-op Society, 20-22 Ball Street, Woonona)</p> <p>Operating markets</p> <p>Conducting chain stores</p> <p>Providing financial services (Former Joint Stock Bank, 203</p>

Context	Theme - Main	Theme - Other	Secondary Themes
			Princes Highway, Bulli) Baking and pastry cooking
	1.6.8 Enjoying leisure		Participating in community events in mining villages Enjoying the seaside (Surf Pavilion, North Beach Off Cliff Road, North Wollongong) Making sea bathing safe Providing facilities for enjoying the sea (Nun's Baths, Pulpit Rock, Flagstaff Point, Wollongong) Conducting Schools of Arts (Clifton School of Arts, 338 Lawrence Hargrave Drive, Clifton) Playing team sports Playing individualized sports Going to the cinema (Former Kings Cinema, Lawrence Hargrave Drive, Thirroul)

Context	Theme - Main	Theme - Other	Secondary Themes
			<p>Holidaying</p> <p>Accommodating tourists (Headlands Hotel, Headlands Avenue & Yurunga Street, Austinmer)</p> <p>Conducting clubs for workers</p> <p>Playing in brass bands</p> <p>Enjoying electronically transmitted entertainments</p> <p>Going to social clubs</p> <p>Eating out</p> <p>Promoting the attractions of Wollongong to tourists</p> <p>Establishing sporting facilities</p> <p>Preserving natural landscapes (Royal National Park)</p> <p>Setting up public parks (Stuart</p>

Context	Theme - Main	Theme - Other	Secondary Themes
			<p>Park, North Wollongong; Picnic Shelters, W A Lang Park, Wollongong)</p> <p>Beautifying Illawarra (Norfolk Island pines, Clifton and North Beach, Wollongong)</p>
	1.6.9 Caring for health		<p>Providing medical services in hospitals (Wollongong Hospital Nurses' Home, Loftus & Darling Streets, Wollongong)</p> <p>Providing private medical care</p> <p>Providing professional medical services</p>
	1.6.10 Tendering professional advice		<p>Providing legal services</p> <p>Offering professional advice or services</p>
	1.6.11 Solving technical and scientific problems		<p>Devising clever technological solutions ('Esperanza', 27 Jones Avenue, Primbee)</p>
	1.6.12 Creating artistic works		<p>Writing imaginative literature ('Wyewurk', 3 Craig Street, Thirroul)</p> <p>Using secluded places as</p>

Context	Theme - Main	Theme - Other	Secondary Themes
			<p>inspiration or retreats to produce creative works (Huts at Little Garie and Era, Royal National Park)</p> <p>Touching the sublime from the escarpment</p> <p>Drawing inspiration from the Wollongong area</p> <p>Producing films and media</p>
1.7 Community Development	1.7.1 Maintaining law and order		<p>Conducting courthouses (Former Wollongong Courthouse, Cliff Road, Wollongong)</p> <p>Building prisons</p> <p>Establishing a police presence (Former Bulli Police Station)</p> <p>Dealing with lawbreakers</p>
	1.7.2 Governing		<p>Controlling Wollongong through magistrates (Former Wollongong Courthouse, Cliff Road, Wollongong)</p> <p>Establishing local government</p>

Context	Theme - Main	Theme - Other	Secondary Themes
			<p>authorities (Former Central Illawarra Council Chambers, Princes Highway, Unanderra)</p> <p>Extending amenities through local government</p> <p>Suffering political and bureaucratic corruption</p>
	1.7.3 Defending Illawarra		<p>Defending Wollongong harbour (Smith's Hill Fort, Cliff Road, North Wollongong)</p> <p>Defending the city and industry (Break Water Battery, North Beach, Port Kembla)</p> <p>Enlisting for war</p> <p>Remembering casualties suffered in war (World War One Memorial, Outside Thirroul RSL Club, Thirroul)</p> <p>Providing military training</p>
	1.7.4 Caring for the aged and unfortunate (welfare)		<p>Conducting Waterfall Sanatorium (Garrawarra Hospital, Off Princes Highway)</p>

Context	Theme - Main	Theme - Other	Secondary Themes
			<p>Caring for the disabled and afflicted</p> <p>Providing at home support care</p> <p>Providing aged care facilities</p>
	1.7.5 Diversifying the community		<p>Attracting more migrants through chain migration</p> <p>Settling Displaced Persons</p> <p>Working under government contract</p> <p>Finding work</p> <p>Living in hostels</p> <p>Acquiring homes</p> <p>Accommodating later arrivals</p> <p>Building community facilities for ethnic communities</p> <p>Maintaining cultural differences</p>
	1.7.6 Conducting community		<p>Setting up consumer co-</p>

Context	Theme - Main	Theme - Other	Secondary Themes
	organisations		<p>operatives (Woonona Industrial Co-operative Society, 20-22 Ball Street, Woonona)</p> <p>Conducting community and other halls</p> <p>Conducting workers' clubs</p> <p>Uniting in producer co-operatives</p> <p>Operating sport and social clubs</p>
	1.7.7 Entering and leaving worldly existence		<p>Providing prenatal care</p> <p>Conducting private maternity hospitals</p> <p>Providing public hospital care for birth and death</p> <p>Dying at home</p> <p>Disposing of the dead (Wombarra General Cemetery, Lawrence Hargrave Drive, Wombarra; Berkeley Pioneer Cemetery)</p> <p>Crafting funeral markers</p>

Context	Theme - Main	Theme - Other	Secondary Themes
			(Gravestones, Andrew Lysaght Park, Wollongong East)