

Woollahra Municipal Council

*Register  
of  
Significant  
Trees*

*Volume 4 of 4  
Significant Trees in Public Parks*



**Woollahra Municipal Council**

**Register  
of  
Significant  
Trees**

Prepared by

**Landarc Landscape Architects**

4/680 Old South Head Road  
Rose Bay NSW 2029  
PO Box 422  
Vaucluse NSW 2030  
Telephone (02) 9371 4598  
Fax (02) 9371 0293

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## **3.0 Survey Data Sheets**

### **Volume 4**

### **Significant Trees in Public Parks**

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Trees of Visual Significance under Private Ownership

# 3.0 SURVEY DATA SHEETS

## **Significant Trees in Public Parks**

### **3.1 Darling Point**

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Woollahra Municipal Council  
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### Darling Point Road Reserve, Darling Point, (adj. McKell Park)

#### Summary of Listed Tree(s)

1 No. Hill's Weeping Fig (*Ficus hillii*)

#### Significance

Attributes:                   Single Specimen  
                                  Historic  
                                  Visual Dominance (Harbour/ District/ Local)

Origin:                       Ornamental/ Cultivated

Govt. Authority/  
Management:               Woollahra Municipal Council

Location:                   Upper level of Reserve adj, between McKell Park and "Craigend". Most of the canopy and roots fall within this reserve.

Height:                     22 metres  
Canopy Spread:           22 metres  
Trunk Diameter:          1.4 metre, multi-branched base.  
Estimated Age:           40+ years

Condition Health:        Good condition and health, with only minor pruning evident to lower branches (boundary alignment) on the "Craigend" side. Considerable degree of carving etching to the lower trunk of this tree, however this does not appear to be affecting its health.

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#### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This is an excellent specimen tree in a prominent harbour foreshore location. Although *F.hillii* is a relatively common species in the Municipality, particularly in street tree planting, this tree is an outstanding in its size and scale at the end of Darling Point.

The vigorous and destructive root growth, coupled with the dense shadowing affect of the canopy, has rendered the tree a largely undesirable and costly species to maintain, particularly in the higher density areas, street plantings and where views can be obstructed. The management response has varied according to the situation, but overall there has been a major phasing out of these trees in favour of more manageable species.

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### McKell Park (Canonbury), Darling Point.

#### Summary of Listed Trees/ Palms:

1 No. Bangalow Palm (*Archontophoenix cunninghamiana*)  
10 No. Kentia Palms (*Howea forsteriana*)

#### Significance

Attributes: Bangalow Palm: Single Specimen / Kentia Palms: 2 main groups  
Historic  
Visual Importance

Origin: Ornamental/ Cultivated

#### Govt. Authority

Management: Woollahra Municipal Council

Location: Kentia Palms clustered in 2 main locations to the NE and NW of the original residence with a further 2 individuals adj. to the Darling Point Road boundary and the single Bangalow Palm.

Height: Bangalow Palm: 12 metres (CT) / Kentia Palms: 4-10 metres (CT)

Estimated Age: 40+ years

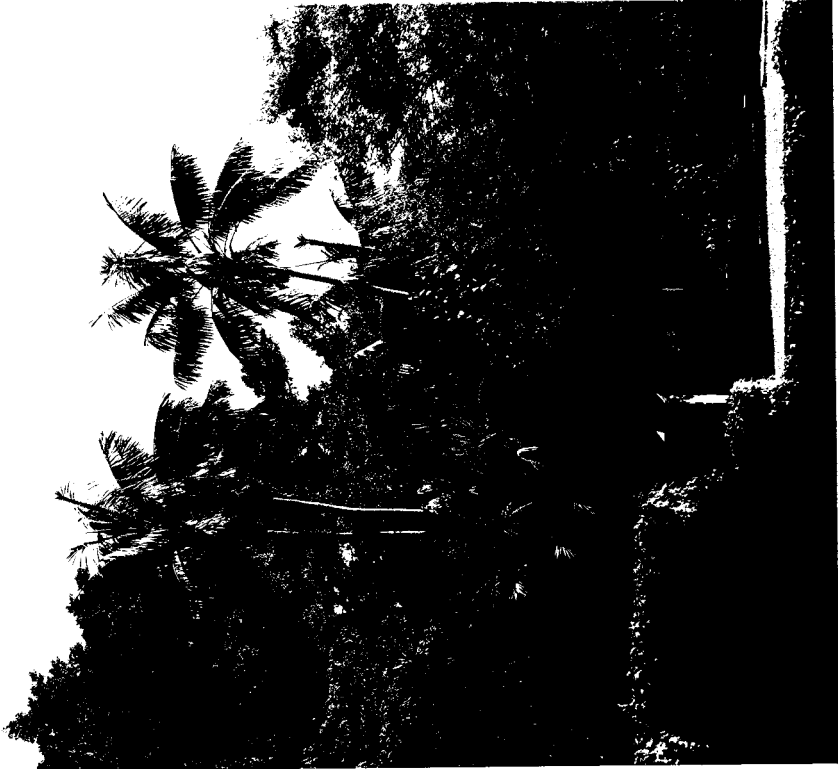
Condition/ Health: Good condition and health.

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### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

All palms are remnants of the "Canonbury" garden, dating possibly to the time of the annex of the Paddington Womens' Hospital or Australian Jockey Club. The palms reflect a typical planting theme repeated throughout Darling Point. The two groups of Kentias, in particular, are located in most visually prominent positions on this point and for this reason they are considered significant.

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### Rushcutters Bay Park, Rushcutters Bay.

Govt. Authority/ Management: Woollahra Municipal Council  
Summary of Listed Trees:

13 No. Moreton Bay Figs (*Ficus macrophylla*)  
1 No. London Plane Trees (*Platanus X hybrida*)  
5 No. Port Jackson Figs (*Ficus nubiginosa*)

Botanical Name: *Ficus macrophylla*  
Common Name: Moreton Bay Fig

Significance  
Attributes: Dominant in Row Planting  
Historic  
Visual Dominance (Harbour/ District/ Local)

Origin: Ornamental/ Cultivated

Location: Located along the park boundary with New South Head Road, the south-western corner beside the stormwater canal and along the central diagonal footpath.

Height: up to 24 metres  
Canopy Spread: 25-35 metres  
Trunk Diameter: 1.1-2.6 metres (@ 1.0 metre above ground level);  
Estimated Age: 100+ years

Condition/ Health: The Figs are generally in good condition and health with strong new growth and dense expansive canopies. The Figs in the south-western corner of the park, adjacent to the stormwater canal are recovering after widening of this channel. No potential threats to the trees at present.

Botanical Name: *Platanus X hybrida*  
Common Name: London Plane Tree

Significance  
Attributes: Mixed Row Planting  
Historic  
Visual Dominance (Harbour/ District/ Local)

Origin: Ornamental/ Cultivated

Location: Located along the central diagonal footpath, along the western boundary to the park and an individual in the now along New South Head Road.

## **Rushcutters Bay Park, Rushcutters Bay. (cont'd)**

Height: 26 metres  
Canopy Spread: 20 metres  
Trunk Diameter: 1.1-1.2 metres (@ 1.0 metre above ground level)  
Estimated Age: 100+ years

Condition Health: Very good condition and health with some minor lopping to lower limbs.

Botanical Name: *Ficus rubiginosa*  
Common Name: Port Jackson Fig

Significance  
Attributes: Minor Component of Row Planting  
Historic  
Visual Dominance (Harbour/ District/ Local)

Origin: Ornamental/ Cultivated  
Location: South-west corner of park and central diagonal footpath.  
Height: up to 15 metres  
Canopy Spread: 15-25 metres  
Trunk Diameter: 1.1-1.2 metres (@ 1.0 metre above ground level)  
Estimated Age: 80+ years

Condition/ Health: Some of these Figs appear stressed at present with open light canopies. The condition will require monitoring to ensure trees regain their vigour.

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## **STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

Rows of huge Moreton Bay Figs form a mature and magnificent boundary to this bayside common and in particular form a distinctive entry into the Municipality of Woollahra along New South Head Road. The canopy of these very large Figs extends over the carriageway, providing a dense green foil to the city traffic. This stand of trees is the first major green-belt for through traffic after Hyde Park and continues the same thematic planting combinations which are of great importance to the fabric and landscape quality of the city of Sydney and indeed this Municipality.

Plane Trees are a co-dominant with the Moreton Bay Figs and to a lesser degree Port Jackson Figs have also been incorporated in the design. This Fig and Plane Tree combination in the larger Municipal parks gives way to predominantly Fig plantings, supported by Pine and Palm accents as one moves east through the Municipality. This is the only large park in the Municipality, which contains London Plane Trees as a co-dominant species, and together these trees form a culturally and visually significant massing which totally dominates the character of Rushcutter's Bay.

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Woollahra Municipal Council  
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### Yarranabbe Park, Rushcutters Bay.

Govt. Authority/ Management: Woollahra Municipal Council  
Summary of Listed Trees:

22 No. Hill's Weeping Figs (*Ficus hillii*)  
2 No. Washington Palms (*Washingtonia robusta*)

Botanical Name: *Ficus hillii*  
Common Name: Hill's Weeping Fig

Significance  
Attributes: Row Planting  
Cultural  
Visual Dominance (Harbour/ District/ Local)

Origin: Ornamental/ Cultivated

Location: Located in row in lawn, adjacent to New Beach Road.  
Height: 15 metres  
Canopy Spread: 12-18 metres  
Trunk Diameter: 1.0-1.5 metres (@ 1.0 metre above ground level)  
Estimated Age: 40+ years  
Condition/ Health: Generally good condition and health.

Botanical Name: *Washingtonia robusta*  
Common Name: Washington Palm  
Significance  
Attributes: Minor Component in Row Planting  
Historic  
Visual Dominance (District/ Local)

Origin: Ornamental/ Cultivated

Location: Remnant planting located within the row of Figs in the lawn, adjacent to New Beach Road.  
Height: 18 metres  
Estimated Age: 80+ years  
Condition/ Health: Good condition and health

### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Hill's Weeping Fig is a dominant component in many street tree planting schemes throughout the Municipality and these listed Figs are a continuation of the New Beach Road plantings and the same species bordering the eastern side of Rushcutter's Bay Park. In most areas, these Figs are not considered significant, rather they form the basic character and fabric of much of the streetscapes in the Municipality.

## **Yarranabbe Park, Rushcutter's Bay. (cont'd)**

This stand however is special in forming a very strong visual statement, bordering the bay-side park and with their under-pruned canopies creating a magnificent sculptural element to these foreshores. These Figs have a considerable history of vandalism derived from their tenacious ability to obstruct views in this area and it is the current management practices to heavily underprune for views which has created the interesting sculptured and formal visual affect.

The Washington Palms appear to be remnants of former planting on this site and these are historically and visually significant in terms of continuing the common thematic palm plantings on the Darling Point peninsula.

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## 3.0 SURVEY DATA SHEETS

### **Significant Trees in Public Parks**

### **3.2 Edgecliff**

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### Trumper Park, Edgecliff.

Govt. Authority/ Management: Woollahra Municipal Council

Summary of Listed Trees:

2 No. Moreton Bay Figs (*Ficus macrophylla*)

Botanical Name: *Ficus macrophylla*  
Common Name: Moreton Bay Fig

Significance  
Attributes: Two Specimens  
Historic  
Visual Dominance (District/ Local)

Origin: Ornamental/ Cultivated

Location: Fig A: Located near path between Cameron Street, Edgecliff and Cecil Street, Paddington and at top of slope to Trumper Oval.  
Fig B: Located near path between New McLean Street, Edgecliff and Cameron Street, Edgecliff and north of Trumper Oval.

Height: Fig A: 26 metres; Fig B: 28 metres  
Canopy Spread: Fig A: 40+ metres; Fig B: 34 metres

Trunk Diameter: Fig A: 2.5 metres;  
Fig B: 3.0 metres (@ 1.0 metre above ground level)

Estimated Age: 100+ years

Condition Health: Both figs are in excellent condition and health with strong new growth and a very dense and expansive canopy. No potential threats to either tree at present.

### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

These two outstanding figs totally dominate the west-facing and south-facing slopes respectively, of Trumper Oval and are by far the oldest and most significant vegetation in this park. These trees are both magnificent specimens of similar size and structure with expansive canopies, though quite distinctive in their degree of buttressing. These trees pre-date the general landscaping to the park and are likely associated with the equally large, but heavily pruned Moreton Bay Figs of Cameron Street, near the pathway to the tennis courts.

All these trees are notable as typical of plantings in the 19th and early 20th century. Their size and scale lend themselves to grand landscape schemes appropriate for early large estates. The lush green foliage of these trees continues a general theme throughout the parks of this area and their elevated location makes them visually significant from Paddington and local environs.



## 3.0 SURVEY DATA SHEETS

### **Significant Trees in Public Parks**

### **3.3 Paddington**

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## 3.0 SURVEY DATA SHEETS

### **Significant Trees in Public Parks**

#### **3.4 Woollahra**

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Woollahra Municipal Council  
Register of Significant Trees

22.06.91

### Chiswick Gardens (cnr. Ocean Street/Wellington Street), Woollahra.

Govt. Authority/ Management: Woollahra Municipal Council  
Summary of Listed Trees/ Palms:

- 1 No. Norfolk Island Pine (*Araucaria heterophylla*)
- 2 No. Washingtonia Palms (*Washingtonia robusta*)
- 7 No. Queen Palms (*Arecastrum romanzoffianum*)
- 1 No. Bangalow Palm (*Archontophoenix cunninghamiana*)
- 2 No. Wine Palms (*Butia capitata*)
- 1 No. Canary Island Date Palm (*Phoenix canariensis*)
- 1 No. European Fan Palm (*Chamaerops humilis*)
- 3 No. Chinese Fan Palm (*Livistona chinensis*)

Botanical Name: *Araucaria heterophylla*  
Common Name: Norfolk Island Pine

#### Significance

Attributes: Single Specimen  
Historic  
Visual Dominance (District/ Local)

Origin: Ornamental/ Cultivation

Location: This pine is located in the gardens at the corner of Wellington Street and Ocean Street.

Height: 23 metres  
Canopy Spread: 10 metres  
Trunk Diameter: 900 mm (@ 1.0 metre above ground level)  
Estimated Age: 100+ years  
Condition/ Health: Tree in good condition and health.

### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Chiswick Gardens are a magnificent assemblage of palms and Australian rain forest species reminiscent, albeit on a smaller scale, the Sydney Botanic Gardens palm arboretum. The gardens are laid out in a formal rectilinear format, crossed by a network of pathways in the gardenesque style common in the earlier part of this century. Most of the larger palms and trees are located within the boundary garden beds, with considerable infill on lawns of selected specimen plantings. No single tree or palm is considered significant, however as a collection, the group is botanically, culturally and visually of great significance to this Municipality.

The Norfolk island Pine is the most dominate visual vertical element in these gardens and furthermore is an integral component of the early cultural planting of Woollahra and indeed the whole of Sydney, since the early 19th century, and as such forms part of the larger visual and historic character of this suburb. Rain forest species including the Firewheel Tree (*Stenocarpus sinuatus*), Illawarra Flame Tree (*Brachychiton acerifolium*) and Port Jackson Fig (*Ficus rubiginosa*) are important in forming a closed canopy and a more intimate sense of space to these gardens.



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### Davies Reserve (cnr. Queen Street & Oxford Street), Woollahra.

Govt. Authority/ Management: Woollahra Municipal Council

Summary of Listed Trees:

4 No. Eastern Cottonwood (*Populus deltoides*)

Botanical Name: *Populus deltoides*  
Common Name: Eastern Cottonwood

Significance

Attributes: Informal Group  
Cultural  
Visual Dominance (District/ Local)

Origin: Ornamental/ Cultivation

Management: Woollahra Municipal Council

Location: Trees located in an informal now adjacent to the eastern boundary.

Height: 15 metres

Canopy Spread: 30 metres (combined canopy)

Trunk Diameter: 700-1200 mm (@ 1.0 metre above ground level)

Estimated Age: 50+ years

Condition/ Health: Trees are in reasonable health and condition for this species. The trees have an untidy growth habit, dropping branches randomly and developing the existing unbalanced and misshapen crowns. The trees consequently demand a higher level of maintenance than many other species.

### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

These poplars form an interesting and visually important foil to the shops and terraces on this major intersection and boundary to the Municipality. While the physical and historic qualities of these trees are of low importance, visual and cultural significance in a highly visible location give this group elevated importance at this stage. The long term viability and species suitability of this grouping are questionable and recent plantings will eventually replace these poplars.





# 3.0 SURVEY DATA SHEETS

## **Significant Trees in Public Parks**

**3.5 Double  
Bay**

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Woollahra Municipal Council  
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17.05.91

**Woollahra Municipal Council Chambers,  
Redleaf Pool and Blackburn Gardens (formerly "Redleaf")  
536 New South Head Road, Double Bay.**

Summary of Listed Trees

located within this Property Description:

- 1 No. Moreton Bay Fig (*Ficus macrophylla*)
- 2 No. Hoop Pine (*Araucaria cunninghamii*)
- 1 No. Norfolk Island Pine (*Araucaria heterophylla*)
- 2 No. Kauri Pines (*Agathis robusta*)
- 1 No. Bunya Pine (*Araucaria bidwillii*)

Botanical Name: *Ficus macrophylla*  
Common Name: Moreton Bay Fig

Significance

Attributes: Single Specimen  
Historic  
Visual Dominance (Harbour/ District/ Local)

Origin: Ornamental/ Cultivated

Location: Located in the top northern corner of the garden terraces between the Council Chambers carpark and Blackburn Gardens.

Height: 24 metres

Canopy Spread: 30 metres

Trunk Diameter: 3 metres (@ 1.0 metre above ground level)

Estimated Age: 100+ years

Condition/ Health: This Fig is in good condition and health with a dense crown, some dead wood and cavities in the base that need attention. Minor pruning to the lower portion of the canopy has not affected the balance and integrity of this tree.

Botanical Name: *Araucaria cunninghamii*  
Common Name: Hoop Pine

Significance

Attributes: Two Specimens/ Components of Mixed Informal Group  
Historic  
Visual Dominance (Harbour/ District/ Local)

Origin: Ornamental/ Cultivated

Location: Pine A: Located between the kerb of the eastern carpark and the sandstone retaining wall to Blackburn Gardens. Pine B: Located on the grass embankment between Redleaf Pool change rooms and Council Chambers.

Height: Pine A: 26 metres; Pine B: 27 metres

### 536 New South Head Road, Double Bay. (cont'd)

Canopy Spread: Pine A: 14 metres; Pine B: 11 metres  
Trunk Diameter: 700mm-1.0 metre (@ 1.0 metre above ground level)  
Estimated Age: 100+ years  
Condition' Health: Both specimens are in excellent condition with healthy dense crowns.

Botanical Name: *Araucaria heterophylla*  
Common Name: Norfolk Island Pine

Significance  
Attributes: Single Specimen/ Component of Mixed Informal Group  
Historic  
Visual Dominance (Harbour/ District/ Local)

Origin: Ornamental/ Cultivation

Location: Located at the entrance to the western carpark of the Council Chambers.  
Height: 27 metres  
Canopy Spread: 12 metres  
Trunk Diameter: 1.0 metre (@ 1.0 metre above ground level)  
Estimated Age: 100+ years

Condition' Health: Tree in excellent condition and health with a dense canopy and little dead wood. Recommend removal of the pavement around the base of the tree and mulching to ensure continued vigour.

Botanical Name: *Araucaris bidwillii*  
Common Name: Bunya Pine

Significance  
Attributes: Component of Mixed Informal Group  
Historic  
Visual Dominance (Harbour/ District/ Local)

Origin: Ornamental/ Cultivated

Location: Located on the terrace between the eastern carpark of the Council Chambers and Blackburn Gardens.

Height: 20 metres  
Canopy Spread: 7 metres  
Trunk Diameter: 650 mm (@ 1.0 metre above ground level)  
Estimated Age: 100+ years

Condition, Health: Reasonably good condition and health, however poorly developed crown due to past competition with other trees on the site.

## 536 New South Head Road, Double Bay. (cont'd)

Botanical Name: *Agathis robusta*  
Common Name: Kauri Pine

### Significance

Attributes: Two Specimens/ Components of Mixed Informal Group  
Historic  
Visual Dominance (Harbour/ District/ Local)

Origin: Ornamental/ Cultivated

Location: Pine A: Located near western boundary, 3 metres below the ramped driveway to the western carpark of the Council Chambers.  
Pine B: Located in the far north-eastern corner of the property adjacent to the service driveway to Redleaf Pool.

Height: Pine A: 25 metres; Pine B: 22 metres  
Canopy Spread: Pine A: 16 metres; Pine B: 20 metres  
Trunk Diameter: 1.1-1.3 metres (@ 1.0 metre above ground level)  
Estimated Age: 100+ years

Condition/ Health: Pine A: Good condition and health though crown is unbalanced due to past competition with adjoining trees. Vigorous new growth now occurring along these old branches.  
Pine B: This twin-forked specimen is in excellent condition and health with a very dense crown.

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## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

All these trees are notable as typical of plantings in the 19th and early 20th century. Their size and scale lend themselves to grand landscape schemes appropriate for early large estates. All these species except for the Norfolk Island Pine, have an Australian rain forest origin, providing a dense green canopy on this rise between Double Bay and Rose Bay. The lush green foliage of these trees continues a general theme throughout the harbourside suburbs and their elevated location makes them visually significant from the harbour, local environs and particularly on the approaches along New South Head Road.

This site contains one of the more significant concentrations of Araucarias and *Agathis* species in the Municipality and is distinguished in having possibly the only complete collection of all these major subtropical Australian pine species. Moreover, these Australian native rain forest trees and particularly the Araucarias are of significance as being part of a major historic association growing in the vicinity of this central dividing ridgeline of the Municipality. The large neighbouring estates of "Elaine" and "Fairwater", 550 and 560 New South Head Road have a similarly stunning collection of these species and visually continue this theme in the landscape. Furthermore, this dominant character is reinforced through the plantings in Cranbrook School, "Dunara Gardens" and Rose Bay Park in the east, the Ginahgulla Road group in Bellevue Hill and the "Colebrook", "Overthorpe" and Ocean Avenue plantings in the Double Bay area. (Refer to Listings).

The Moreton Bay Fig is a magnificent and outstanding specimen of this species and has a position of visual prominence creating a tremendous sense of scale similar to the impact these trees provide in their native, sub-tropical and tropical rain forests in New South Wales and Queensland. Although *F. macrophylla* occurs naturally as far south as the Illawarra, it is unlikely that this tree is an

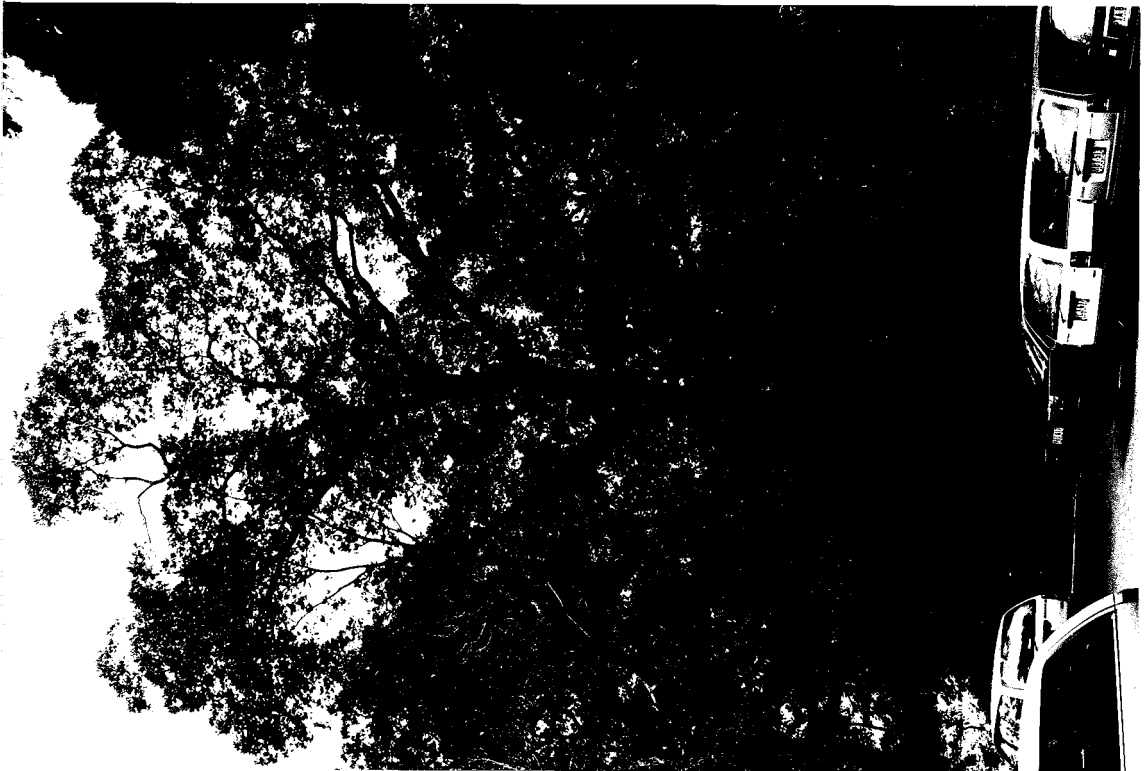
### **536 New South Head Road, Double Bay. (cont'd)**

indigenous remnant. These trees were widely planted on the large 19th century estates, and the size of this tree testifies to a planting possibly at the time of development of the "Redleaf" estate. The Norfolk Island Pine, Bunya Pine and Hoop Pines with their tall, vertical forms and dark grey green foliage are in magnificent contrast to the broadly spreading lush green Kauri Pines. Kauri Pines, originally known as Dammara from (*Dammara robusta*), are native to Queensland rain forests. These pines were highly prized specimen trees by the mid to late 19th century and even today are somewhat less common in the Municipality than other dominant Araucarias, such as the Norfolk Island Pine (*Araucaria heterophylla*) and Hoop Pine (*A. cunninghamii*). This area is further significant in having the greatest local concentration of Kauri Pines in the Municipality, all of which are associated with the extensive plantings of these original large estates. These grounds and gardens of the former estate of "Redleaf" also contain a large assortment of rain forest species in support of these listed significant trees and include Brown Pine (*Podocarpus elatus*), Firewheel Tree (*Stenocarpus sinuatus*) and Illawarra Flame Tree (*Brachychiton acerifolium*). Other common ornamentals of historic importance include Jacaranda (*Jacaranda mimosifolia*), Brush Box (*Lophostemon confertus*), Camphor Laurel (*Cinnamomum camphora*) and Kentia Palms (*Howea forsteriana*).

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20.05.91

### Foster Park (incl. Sherbrooke Avenue), Double Bay.

Govt. Authority/ Management: Woollahra Municipal Council  
Summary of Listed Trees:

22 No. Liquidambar (*Liquidambar styraciflua*)

Botanical Name: *Liquidambar styraciflua*

Common Name: Liquidambar

Significance

Attributes: Row Planting and Informal Group  
Cultural  
Visual Dominance (District/ Local)

Origin: Ornamental/ Cultivated

Location: Row planting on 8 metre wide grass verge on Water Board property, between the Sherbrooke Lane carriageway and stormwater channel. The informal grove is located in the playground area of the kindergarten with trees extending to the carpark and the upper level of the embankment.

Height: up to 20+ metres

Canopy Spread: varies 12-25 metres

Trunk Diameter: 0.6-1.0 metres (@ 1.0 metre above ground level)

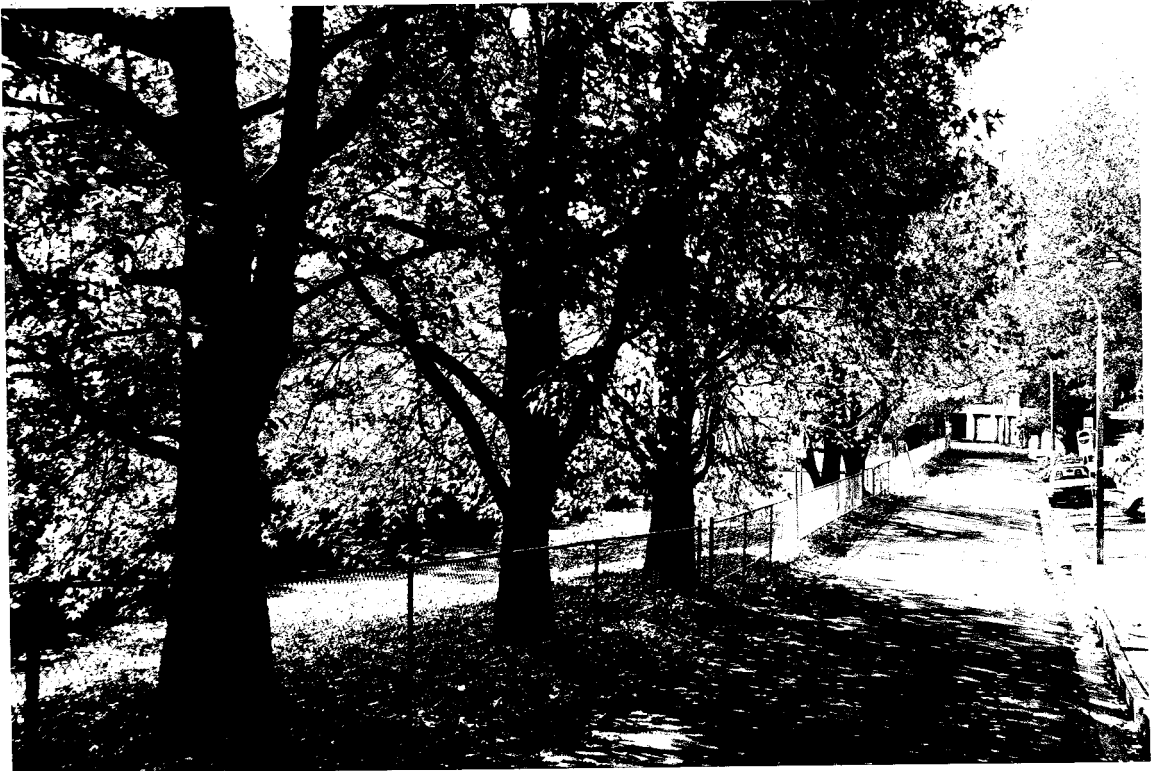
Estimated Age: 20-50+ years (varying planting phases and infill)

Condition/ Health: All trees in very good condition and health with strong growth and dense canopies. No potential threats to tree at present.

### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

These Liquidambers, comprising three distinct groups and at least two separate planting phases, form a culturally and visually stunning group of trees, particularly during the autumn colour before leaf fall. Mostly located in a sheltered cul-de-sac, at the foot of a slope off New South Head Road, the trees form the largest grouping of this very ornamental North American species in the Municipality. Although Liquidambers tend not to display vivid autumn colour in this part of Sydney, these trees usual are an exception.

The three groupings include two specimens at the top of the slope, adjacent to New South Head Road, the informal grove planting of the kindergarten area and carpark and the row planting inside the Water Board Reserve and beside the stormwater channel. It is the size and visual impact of this total group, rather than any individual, which makes these Liquidambers significant.



**Guilfoyle Avenue, Double Bay.**

Govt. Authority/ Management: Woollahra Municipal Council  
Summary of Listed Trees:

5 No. Washington Palms (*Washingtonia robusta*)

Botanic Name: *Washingtonia robusta*  
Common Name: Washington Palm

Significance  
Attributes: Formal Row Planting  
Historic  
Visual Dominance (Harbour/ District/ Local)

Origin: Ornamental/ Cultivated

Location: Palms originally planted in a formal single row along the centreline of the central lawn island and reserve in Guilfoyle Avenue, between Ocean Avenue and Bay Street.

Height: 22-24 metres  
Canopy Spread: 8 metres  
Estimated Age: 100+ years

Condition/ Health: Generally in good condition and health, however one palm has died recently and gaps in the planting indicate other losses in the past.

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

These palms form spectacular vertical accents and are an integral component of the early cultural planting of this area. Washington Palms, native to north-western Mexico, are a common palm species in this Municipality, and are typical of the same period planting as the Araucarias, Figs and other rain forest trees. These exotic palms are superficially similar to the native and less commonly planted Cabbage Palm (*Livistona australis*). The preferred usage of the Washington Palm is possibly based on their ability to flourish in difficult exposed locations with little water and achieve a very tall height of up to 30 metres+, giving rise to their other common name of Skyduster.

The avenue, named in honour of Guilfoyle's work in this area, nowadays contains a central island and reserve in which these very tall and historic palms have been planted. Their origins are possibly associated with the Guilfoyle family nursery, known as the "The Exotic Nursery", established near this area, "three and a half acres on the flat" in 1851. Washington Palms were part of the exotic and cultural plantings established in this area through this nursery.

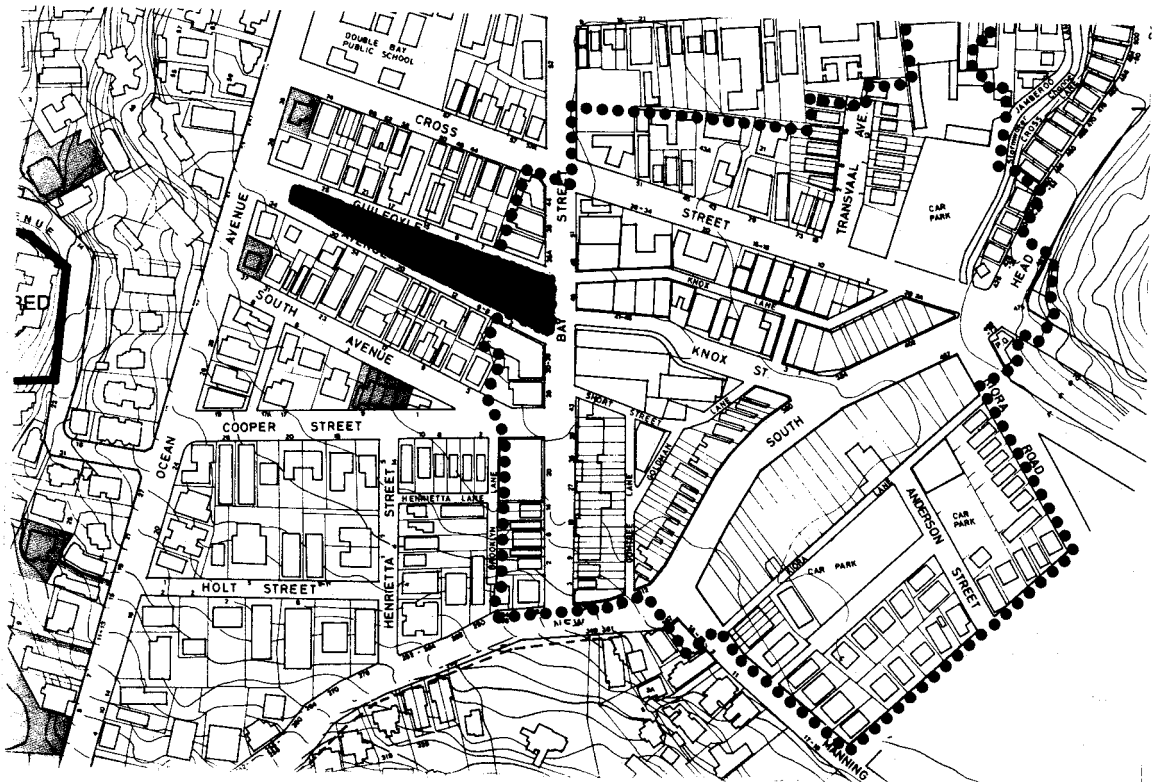
Nursery lists give an insight into the diversity of available species by the middle of the 19th century and also some understanding of the cultural and historic plantings in this area. Furthermore, the Guilfoyles collected plants throughout the South Pacific and the north coast rain forests of the Cudgen

### **Guilfoyle Avenue, Double Bay. (cont'd)**

area and the planting in this locality reflects this long family interest in exotic palms and rain forest plants. (Refer to Listing: Significant Street Trees - Ocean Avenue).

Much of Double Bay reflects this historic fashion and interest in these plants and the palms here are a continuation of this thematic planting. In consideration of William Guilfoyle's work in collecting and planting exotic species from the east coast of Australia and the South Pacific, it is perhaps an unusual selection of Willows (*Salix babylonica*), which dominate the lower visual streetscape of this island.

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28.06.91

### Steyne Park, Double Bay.

Govt. Authority/ Management: Woollahra Municipal Council  
Summary of Listed Trees:

8 No. Moreton Bay Figs (*Ficus macrophylla*)  
3 No. Port Jackson Figs (*Ficus rubiginosa*)  
1 No. Norfolk Island Pines (*Araucaria heterophylla*)

Botanical Name: *Ficus macrophylla*  
Common Name: Moreton Bay Fig

Significance  
Attributes: Informal Group And Boundary Planting  
Historic  
Visual Dominance (Harbour/ District/ Local)

Origin: Ornamental/ Cultivated

Location: Primarily the dominant Fig species, particularly along the William Street boundary with two major specimens clustered near the seawall and adjacent to the playground.

Height: 15 metres  
Canopy Spread: 30+ metres  
Trunk Diameter: 2.0+ metres (@ 1.0 metre above ground level)  
Estimated Age: 100+ years

Condition/ Health: These Figs are generally in very good condition and health, with dense canopies and very little dead wood in the crowns.

Botanical Name: *Ficus rubiginosa*  
Common Name: Port Jackson Fig

Significance  
Attributes: Informal Boundary Plantings  
Historic  
Visual Dominance (Harbour/ District/ Local),

Origin: Ornamental/ Cultivated

Location: Minor component of boundary plantings, mainly along lower Ocean Avenue.

Height: 14 metres  
Canopy Spread: 12 metres  
Trunk Diameter: 800 mm (@ 1.0 metre above ground level)

## Steyne Park, Double Bay. (cont'd)

Estimated Age:	100+ years
Condition Health:	These Figs are generally in very good condition and health, with dense canopies and very little dead wood in the crowns.
Botanic Name:	<i>Araucaria heterophylla</i>
Common Name:	Norfolk Island Pine
Significance Attributes:	Single Remnant Specimen Historic Visual Dominance (Harbour/ District/ Local)
Origin:	Ornamental/ Cultivated
Location:	Remnant Pine associated with the foreshore cluster of Moreton Bay Figs and adjacent to the rotunda and playground.
Height:	26 metres
Canopy Spread:	9 metres
Trunk Diameter:	800 mm (@ 1.0 metre above ground level)
Estimated Age:	100+ years
Condition/ Health:	This Pine is in good condition and health, with a dense canopy and very little dead wood in the crown.

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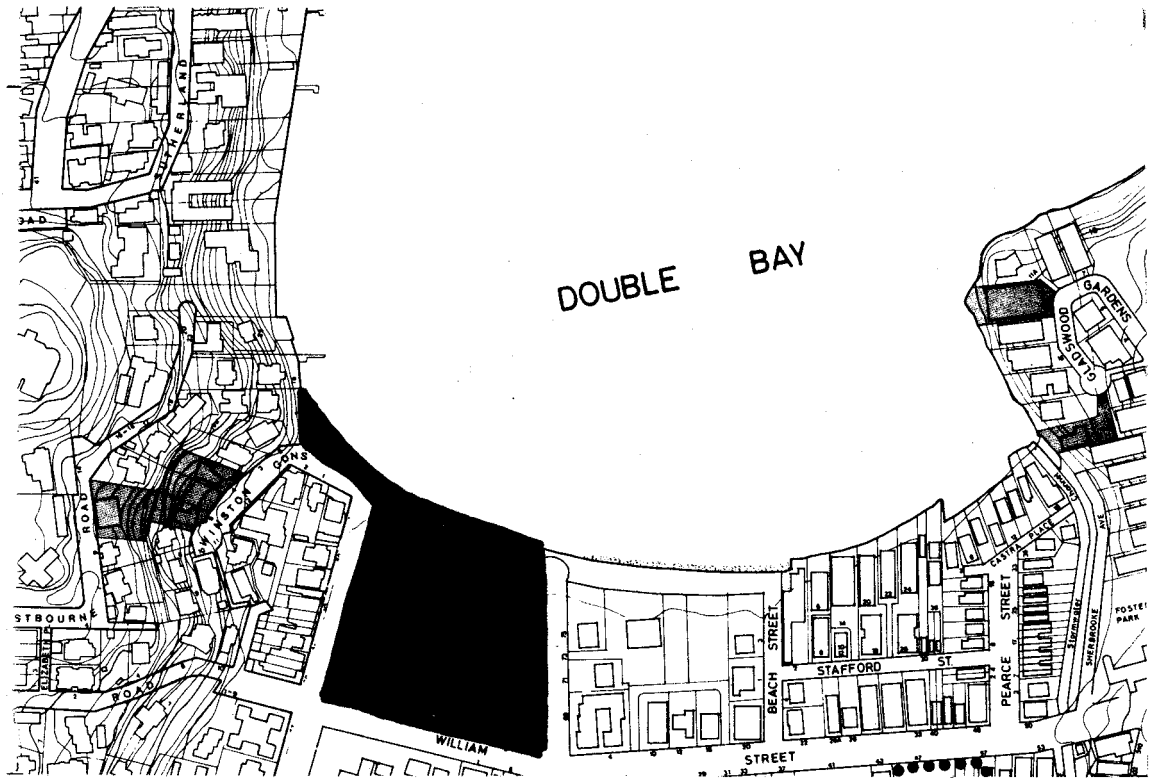
### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Steyne Park is a fine example of a harbour-side common, dedicated primarily to provision of playing fields and has design and layout parallels with Rushcutter's Bay, albeit in a smaller scale. The park however, marks a transition from the Fig/ London Plane Tree deciduous co-dominants theme to the more typical Fig/ Araucaria species composition of the more exposed, eastern bayside parks, such as Lyne Park, Rose Bay and Robertson Park, Watson's Bay.

Moreover, Steyne Park contains visually and historically significant mixed boundary plantings and an important Ficus Araucaria grove near the foreshore area. The predominantly massed Fig plantings around the perimeter of the park, particularly in the south-eastern and western corners, serve to delineate the park boundaries and provide visual continuity with the major historic plantings of the area. The Moreton Bay Figs along William Street visually continue the dense canopied affect of the historically significant Ocean Avenue plantings, between New South Head Road, Edgecliff and Guilfoyle Avenue. (Refer to Listing: Significant Street Trees - Ocean Avenue). The area contains a remarkable diversity of very old ornamental and particularly Australian rain forest and Pacific Island species, reflecting the early influence of Guilfoyle's plantings dating to the middle of the 19th century.

These Figs and the lone remnant Norfolk Island Pine are notable in expanding this visual character, typical of plantings from the early 19th century up to the early 20th century. The dramatic scale and lush green foliage of these trees continues a general theme throughout the parks of this Municipality and their prominent harbour-side location makes them visually significant from the harbour as well as district and local area. Furthermore, the individual specimens occurring in the mixed boundary plantings have native rain forest affinities and include uncommon species of botanical interest such as Plum Pine (*Podocarpus elatus*) and Turpentine (*Syncarpia glomulifera*).

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3.0 SURVEY DATA SHEETS  
**Significant Trees in Public Parks**

**3.6 Point  
Piper**

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Woollahra Municipal Council  
Register of Significant Trees

01.07.91

### Dunara Gardens, Point Piper. (Public Right-of-Way and Reserve)

Govt. Authority/ Management: Woollahra Municipal Council

Summary of Listed Trees:

1 No. Cook Pine (*Araucaria columnaris*)

Botanic Name: *Araucaria columnaris*

Common Name: Cook Pine

Significance

Attributes: Single Specimen  
Historic  
Visual Dominance (Harbour/ District/ Local)

Origin: Ornamental/ Cultivated

Location: Tree located in sloping heavily mulched, garden bed, known as "Dunara Gardens", adjacent to the northern boundary fence of 1 Wentworth Road and the western property boundary of 9 Dunara Gardens.

Height: 32 metres

Canopy Spread: 8 metres

Trunk Diameter: 1 metre (@ 1.0 metre above ground level)

Estimated Age: 100+ years

Condition/ Health: This single trunk specimen is in very good condition and health with a densely branched, broader canopy than the neighbouring Cook Pine in 1 Wentworth Street. This specimen also has an interesting multi-stemmed development in the top part of the crown.

### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This Cook Pine is of similar age, form and size to a neighbouring Pine of the same species located in 1 Wentworth Road. Both Pines are likely associated with the historically significant c.1882 "Dunara" estate. A dominant vertical element in its own right, the Pine on this property, moreover is of significance as part of a major historic grouping of Araucarias associated with the original large estates in this precinct. This major grouping comprises the neighbouring Pine mentioned here as well as the Norfolk Island Pine in the street verge, in front of 1 Wolseley Road and the Cook Pine in Rose Bay Park, adjacent to the Rose Bay Police Station (formerly the gatehouse to Captain Piper's "Henrietta Villa". Furthermore, the Araucarias in Cranbrook School are a visual extension of this dominant theme. (Refer to Listings).

These trees together form spectacular vertical accents and are an integral component of the early cultural planting of this area. Furthermore, the Cook Pines, with their distinctive curved trunks, dramatic scale, narrow branching pattern and very tall column-like appearance, are considerably rarer than the Norfolk Island Pines in the Municipality and often more visually significant. Two large Canary Island Date Palms (*Phoenix canariensis*) are also of note in this reserve.





# 3.0 SURVEY DATA SHEETS

## **Significant Trees in Public Parks**

### **3.7 Bellevue Hill**

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Woollahra Municipal Council  
Register of Significant Trees

28.06.91

### Bellevue Park, Bellevue Hill.

Govt. Authority/ Management: Woollahra Municipal Council  
Summary of Listed Trees:

7 No. Moreton Bay Figs (*Ficus macrophylla*)  
10 No. Port Jackson Figs (*Ficus nubiginosa*)  
3 No. Norfolk Island Pines (*Araucaria heterophylla*)  
10 No. Canary Island Date Palms (*Phoenix canariensis*)

Botanical Name: *Ficus macrophylla*  
Common Name: Moreton Bay Fig

Significance  
Attributes: Informal Group  
Historic  
Visual Dominance (Harbour/ District/ Local)

Origin: Ornamental/ Cultivated

Location: Grove located near the crown of the Hill within the park.

Height: 12 metres  
Canopy Spread: 18 metres  
Trunk Diameter: 1.0 metres (@ 1.0 metre above ground level)  
Estimated Age: 100+ years

Condition/ Health: These Figs are generally in fair to good condition and health, especially considering their age and survival ability under a difficult wind and salt swept environment. These Figs are old stunted, open crowned specimens with wind-pruned canopies reflecting these severe environmental conditions with varying degrees of individual damage and dead wood. Recommend improved tree care and attention, including tree surgery where required and thorough watering during dry periods.

Botanical Name: *Ficus rubiginosa*  
Common Name: Port Jackson Fig

Significance  
Attributes: Specimen and Informal Row Plantings  
Historic  
Visual Dominance (Harbour/ District/ Local)

Origin: Ornamental/ Cultivated

## Bellevue Park, Bellevue Hill. (cont'd)

Location: Southern boundary planting below the crown of the Hill and two specimens near the north-western boundary with Bellevue Hill Public School.

Height: up to 14 metres  
Canopy Spread: up to 22 metres (sheltered specimen)  
Trunk Diameter: up to 1.8 metres (@ t.0 metre above ground level)  
Estimated Age: 100+ years

Condition/ Health: These Figs are generally in good to very condition and health, especially considering their age and survival ability under a difficult wind and salt swept environment. These Figs are dense crowned specimens with the southern plantings displaying some wind-pruning to canopies reflecting the prevailing wind direction. Recommend improved tree care and attention, including tree surgery where required.

Botanic Name: *Araucaria heterophylla*  
Common Name: Norfolk Island Pine

Significance  
Attributes: Remnant Specimens  
Historic  
Visual Dominance (Harbour/ District/ Local)  
Origin: Ornamental/ Cultivated

Location: Remnant Pines are scattered in the lawn, over the upper crown of the Hill.  
Height: up to 23 metres  
Canopy Spread: 8 metres  
Trunk Diameter: up to 700 mm (@ 1.0 metre above ground level)  
Estimated Age: 100+ years

Condition/ Health: The major specimen is in late senescence with severe die-back to the crown, considerable dead wood, and loss of apical growth. Recommend thorough watering during dry periods and fertilising program to renew vitality.

Botanical Name: *Phoenix canariensis*  
Common Name: Canary Island Date Palm

Significance  
Attributes: Formal Row Planting (Remnant Specimens)  
Historic  
Visual Dominance (Harbour/ District/ Local)  
Origin: Ornamental/ Cultivation

Location: Located in semi-circular row, set back from the crown of the Hill.

Heights: 8 metres CT (clear trunk)  
Canopy Spreads: 8 metres  
Estimated Age: 80+ years



## **Bellevue Park, Bellevue Hill. (cont'd)**

Condition Health: Generally in fair condition and health, though many of the palms have disappeared. Two specimens have died recently, possibly from the common crown die-back disease. Recommend replacement planting program as in Robertson Park.

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### **STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

Bellevue Park, dedicated in 1888, contains an outstanding collection of Figs, Araucarias and Canary Island Date Palms dating back to this period and early 20th century plantings. The design and layout is based on a formal radial treatment, utilising Canary Island Date Palms, set back on an equal radius from the top of the Hill and centre of the circle. The remaining semi-circular row of Canary Island Date Palms is one of the most significant visual elements of the park, unfortunately threatened by the "crown rot" affecting many of these palms in the Eastern Suburbs.

The Fig plantings, a mixture of Moreton Bay Figs and Port Jackson Figs, form a major grove of trees in the park. These trees surround the crown of the Hill and with their sparse canopies frame the magnificent views. Furthermore, large Port Jackson Figs and a single Hill's Weeping Fig (*F. hillii*) line the southern boundary and two large individual specimens of this species dominate the lower north-western boundary to Bellevue Hill Public School. One of these specimens is a particularly fine, dense and broadly spreading tree of note. These Figs and the remnant Araucarias possibly pre-date the Palm plantings.

The Figs and Araucarias are of great cultural and visual significance to this historic location. The Norfolk Island Pines appear to be an original earlier element in the landscaping and have now almost disappeared altogether with only one large specimen and two smaller trees remaining in the park. The larger Norfolk Island Pine is of similar age to the two Pines described in Section 1.0 Significant Trees under Private Ownership - Bellevue Hill Public School.

The Norfolk Island Pines were used as navigational aids for approaching ships, clearly identifying the location of the colony by means of their distinctive height, visual accent and "exotic" form amongst otherwise "barren heaths". Apart from this utilitarian aspect the trees were also widely planted for their outstanding form and symmetry and their evocative charm of a greener English landscape. These trees are also highly adaptable to poor sandstone-derived soils and high exposure to salt-laden winds.

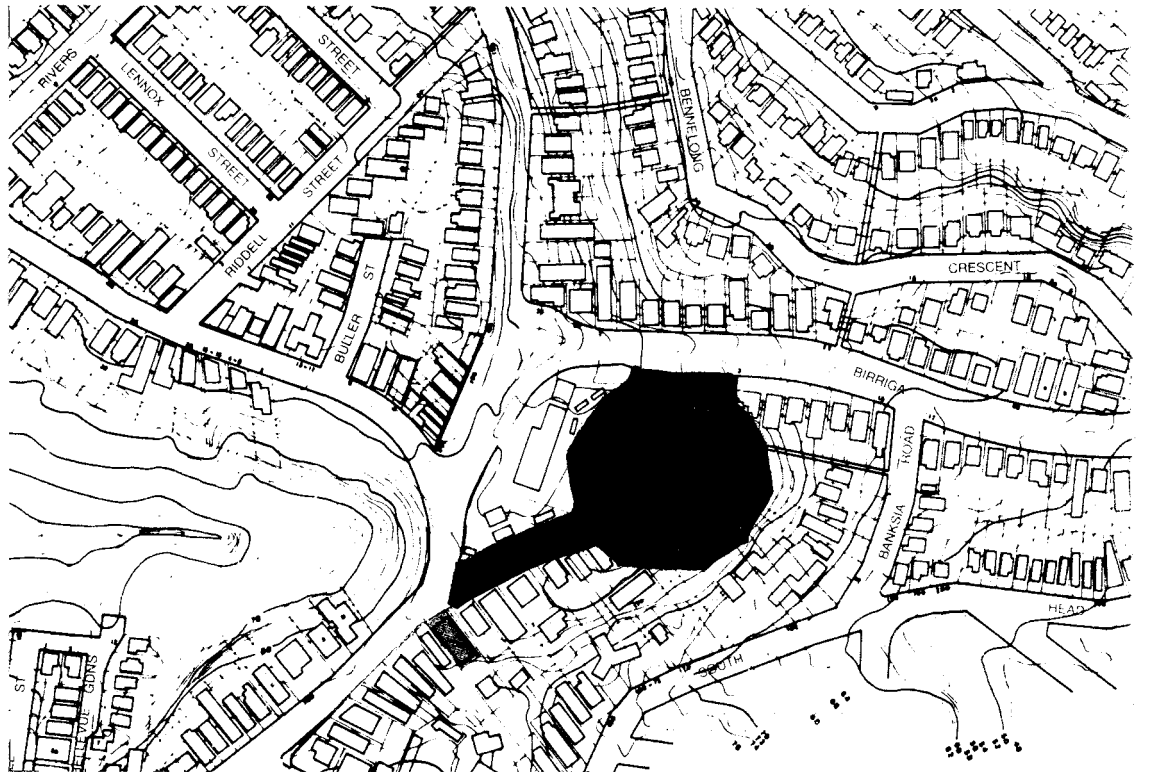
In addition to these plantings, two old Monterey Pines (*Pinus radiata*) are located within the general planting and a further early planting of this species occurs on the street verge on the Park Road entry, adjacent to the school. This verge also contains a curious collection of six randomly planted Queen Palms (*Arecastrum romanzoffianum*), which appear to pre-date the avenue plantings of Hill's Weeping Figs. Refer to Section 2.0 Significant Street Trees - Bellevue Hill Palm Plantings. Robertson Park is a fine example of an early 20th century sea-side, pleasure park with furthermore, the row planting adjacent to Robertson Place and Clovelly Street, near the c.1837 Georgian residence of Dunbar House (originally "Watson's Bay House"), continues and reinforces this particular theme planting. This palm avenue and row style represents the more recent overlay plantings in the park. Individual palms also exist in the perimeter plantings and these are possibly remnants of former row planting schemes.

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Woollahra Municipal Council  
Register of Significant Trees

20.05.91

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### Cooper Park, Bellevue Hill.

Govt. Authority/ Management: Woollahra Municipal Council  
Summary of Listed Trees:

Mixed Tall Open Forest  
Mixed Ornamental Rain Forest Species  
Liquidambar (*Liquidambar styraciflua*)  
Assorted Palm Plantings

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#### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Cooper Park is primarily an urban bush park, containing many new areas of indigenous vegetation, in a mosaic of communities ranging from the Blackbutt (*Eucalyptus pilularis*) dominated tall open forest and understorey heaths of the north-facing slopes to mesic and cool-temperate rain forest elements along the creek and steep south-facing slopes, dominated by Lilly Pilly (*Acmena smithii*), Black Wattle (*Callicoma serratifolia*) and disclimax species such as Pittosponum (*Pittosporum undulatum*) and Cheese Tree (*Glochidion ferdinandi*). These communities are the descendants of the original vegetation, albeit in a highly modified form, due to the enormous developmental pressures since settlement. Nevertheless, these remnant indigenous communities are of very high significance in terms of scientific, botanic, historic, visual and recreational importance.

Since much of the remaining bushland in parks is regrowth, there is very little of significance in terms of age and structure, however some tree species are represented by only a few individuals making these scientifically very significant indeed. Of particular note is the very tall grove of Blackbutts (*Eucalyptus pilularis*) adjacent to the entry road, near the tennis court carpark. These trees represent regrowth tall open forest, and are possibly descendants of the trees that were logged from this valley throughout the 19th century. Similarly, large Blackbutts feature prominently in a mixed planted forest on the upper slopes of Cooper Park near Bellevue Gardens and Kendall Street, Bondi Junction. Furthermore, together with a magnificent Moreton Bay Fig, two Blackbutts frame a spectacular view over the valley at the foot of Raine Street, Bondi Junction.

In conjunction with this regrowth of urban bushland, Cooper Park has a significant cultural history of significant plantings, particularly dating to the 1930's. The park reflects the popular early 20<sup>th</sup> century gardenesque style in layout and structure, unfortunately now very much in decay. The basic philosophy was to provide a tamed view of the surrounding bushland "wilderness" by creating an ornamental parkland setting as a central feature with ornamental exotic trees as a major design element.

This is a recurring theme throughout Sydney's urban bushland and is central to the original park layouts of Parsley Bay, Nielsen Park and to a lesser degree Vacluse Park in this Municipality. Of particular note in Cooper Park are the ornamental groves of Liquidambar (*Liquidambar styraciflua*), east of the tennis courts and the Eastern Cottonwoods (*Populus deltoides*) on the level grassed area near Bellevue Gardens, Bondi Junction. There are also very large specimen plantings of *P. deltoides* in the gully below the amphitheatre, along the tennis court access road, off Suttie Road, and on Lough Playing Fields, adjacent to Manning Road.

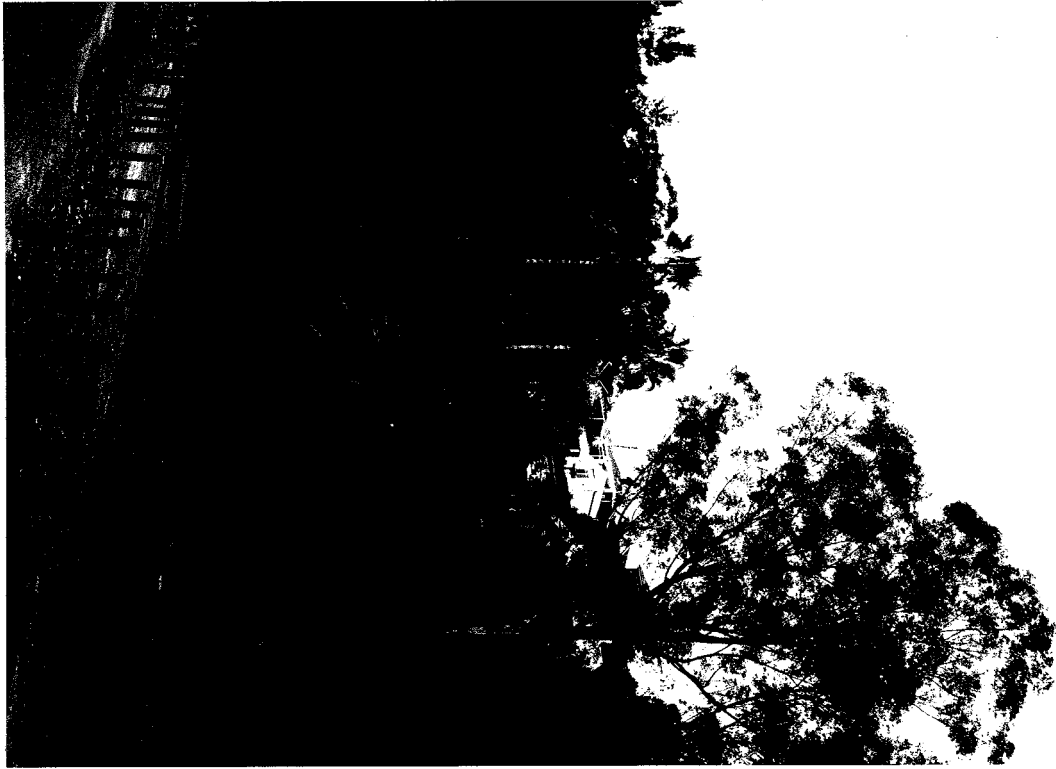
### **Cooper Park, Bellevue Hill. (cont'd)**

The banks of the creek also contain some magnificent groves of Tree Ferns (*Cyathea* sp.) and a number of large planted ornamental Australian rain forest species including Black Bean (*Castanospermum australe*) and Lemon-scented Myrtle (*Backhousia citriodora*).

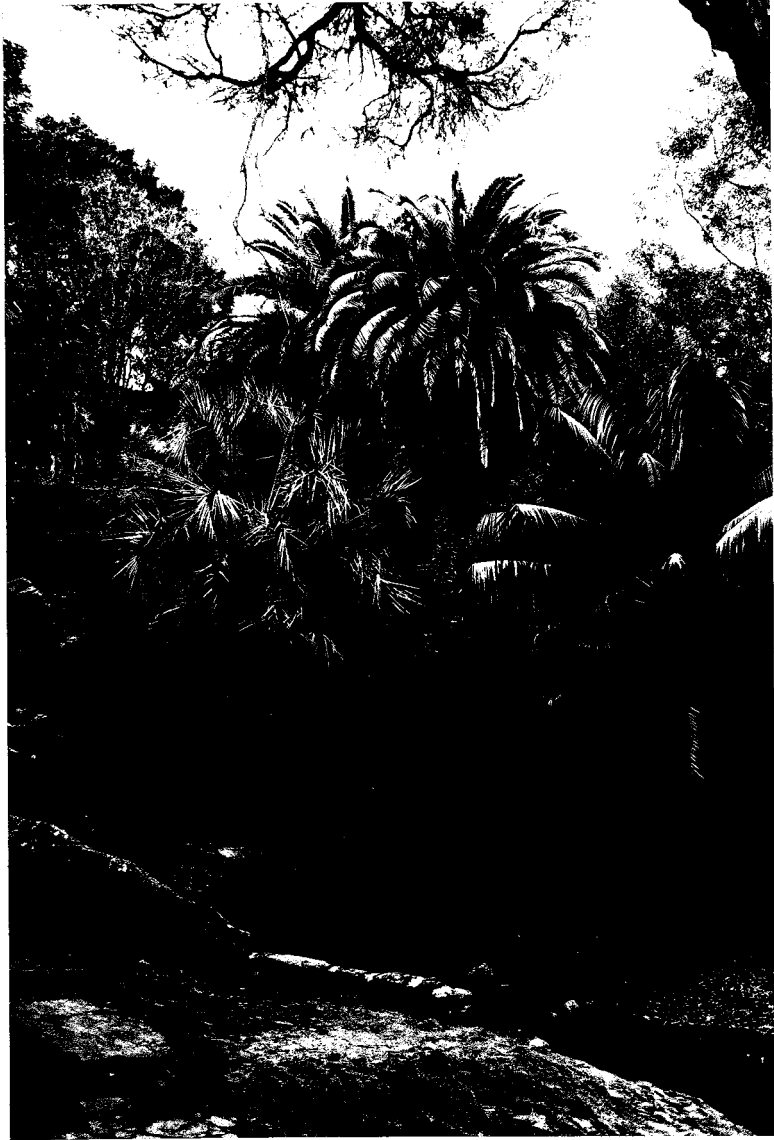
In addition to these ornamental tree plantings, are the visually prominent palm plantings that are carried through into the streets in parts of Bellevue Hill, (Refer to Section: Significant Street Trees). These Cooper Park palms, although of cultural and visual significance, make a rather disjunctive statement, juxtaposed with deciduous ornamental trees and set against a bushland backdrop. These palms also reflect a huge range of biogeographic origins from desert steppe to sub-tropical rain forests and are randomly massed as in an arboretum, including Wine Palms (*Butia capitata*), Canary Island Date Palms (*Phoenix canariensis*), Kentia Palms (*Howea forsteriana*), a particularly fine specimen Chinese Windmill Palm (*Trachycarpus fortunei*) next to the tennis courts and four tall Washington Palms (*Washingtonia robusta*).

Further detailed information on Cooper Park Trees and landscape management is contained in Council's Cooper Park Management Plan (1987).

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Woollahra Municipal Council  
Register of Significant Trees

20.05.91

### Cooper Park - Scout Hall, adj. to Streatfield Road, Bellevue Hill.

Govt. Authority/ Management: Woollahra Municipal Council  
Summary of Listed Trees:

36 No. Monterey Pine (*Pinus radiata*)

Botanical Name: *Pinus radiata*  
Common Name: Monterey Pine

Significance  
Attributes: Informal Grove Planting  
Cultural  
Visual Dominance (District/ Local)

Origin: Ornamental/ Cultivated

Location: Located on the open, grassed flat and slopes near the scout hall and adjacent to Streatfield Road.

Height: up to 15+ metres  
Canopy Spread: varies 10-25 metres  
Trunk Diameter: 0.4-1.0 metres (@ 1.0 metre above ground level)  
Estimated Age: 40-50+ years

Condition Health: Trees in varying condition and health with considerable dead wood on the trunks that is typical for this species. Several trees have almost horizontal trunks, adding gnarled character and forms to this grove. This growth pattern can be attributed to the level of exposure here and the poor soils. No potential threats to trees at present.

### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This large grove of Monterey Pines is significant as a distinctive cultural planting of high visual and aesthetic quality. Whilst this North American species occurs sporadically throughout the Municipality in parks and private gardens, usually as an individual specimen, it is only in this location that it's been planted as a monocultural group. The pines form a very interesting woodland composition, wild and unkempt in character and very different to the native open forest and lush ornamental plantings of neighbouring Cooper Park.



# 3.0 SURVEY DATA SHEETS

## **Significant Trees in Public Parks**

### **3.8 Bondi Junction**

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3.0 SURVEY DATA SHEETS  
**Significant Trees in Public Parks**

**3.9 Rose  
Bay**

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Woollahra Municipal Council  
Register of Significant Trees

28.06.91

### Lyne Park, Rose Bay.

Govt. Authority/ Management: Woollahra Municipal Council

Summary of Listed Trees:

34 No. Moreton Bay Figs (*Ficus macrophylla*)  
14 No. Port Jackson Figs (*Ficus rubiginosa*)  
10 No. Norfolk Island Pines (*Araucaria heterophylla*)  
9 No. Silver Date Palms (*Phoenix sylvestris*)

Botanical Name: *Ficus macrophylla*  
Common Name: Moreton Bay Fig

Significance  
Attributes: Groupings and Row Planting  
Historic  
Visual Dominance (Harbour/ District/ Local)

Origin: Ornamental/ Cultivated

Location: 14 No. in major row planting between playing field and New South Head Road and an associated single specimen near the old playground. 9 No. are located in a row within the carpark garden bed, near the wharf, and extend to the lawn area next to Sails Restaurant. 3 No. are mixed with the Port Jackson Fig row. A further 7 No. are located in the south-western corner as an extension to the main row of Figs.

Height: up to 30 metres.  
Canopy Spread: up to 35 metres.  
Trunk Diameter: 3.0+ metres (@ 1.0 metre above ground level)  
Buttressed Base: up to 8+ metres  
Estimated Age: 80-100+ years

Condition/ Health: These Figs are generally in very good condition and health, with little dead wood in the crowns and dense canopies. The main row of Figs have been heavily underpruned in the past, allowing views through to the harbour however to some degree a loss of balance and form.

Botanical Name: *Ficus rubiginosa*  
Common Name: Port Jackson Fig

Significance  
Attributes: Formal Row Planting  
Historic  
Visual Dominance (Harbour/ District/ Local)

Origin: Ornamental/ Cultivated

Location: Trees located between Sails Restaurant and New South Head Road following the old street alignment of Sunderland Avenue.



## **Lyne Park, Rose Bay. (cont'd)**

Height: 10 metres  
Canopy Spread: up to 15+ metres  
Trunk Diameter: up to 1.0 metre (@ 1.0 metre above ground level)  
Estimated Age: 80+ years

Condition Health: These Figs although of small stature, possibly due to the confines of underlying reinforced concrete, are generally in very good condition and health with dense canopies.

Botanic Name: *Araucaria heterophylla*  
Common Name: Norfolk Island Pine

Significance  
Attributes: Informal Groupings  
Historic  
Visual Dominance (Harbour/ District/ Local)

Origin: Ornamental/ Cultivated

Location: 8 No. Pines scattered in the lawn and garden beds between the western vehicular entry and the wharf and a further 2 No. specimens along the foreshore pedestrian link near the new playground. (A further 5 No. located in Vickerey Avenue)

Height: up to 27+ metres  
Canopy Spread: 10+ metres  
Trunk Diameter: up to 1.1 metres (@ 1.0 metre above ground level)  
Estimated Age: 100+ years

Condition/ Health: Most Pines in reasonable to good condition and health, though many showing signs of senescence with some die-back to the crowns, dead wood and loss of apical growth. Recommend thorough watering during dry periods and fertilising programme to renew vitality.

Botanical Name: *Phoenix sylvestris*  
Common Name: Silver Date Palm

Significance  
Attributes: Row Planting  
Botanic  
Visual Dominance (Harbour/ District/ Local)

Origin: Ornamental/ Cultivation

Location: Located in raised timber planters adjacent to the garden bed and western carpark and in the lawn area in front of Sails Restaurant.

Heights: 10+ metres CT (clear trunk)  
Canopy Spreads: 5-8 metres  
Estimated Age: 65+ years

Condition/ Health: Generally in good condition and health.

## Lyne Park, Rose Bay. (cont'd)

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### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The planting layout of Lyne Park, Rose Bay, and the incidence of significant tree rows and groupings, is historically associated with the development of the Flying Base. The park in its present form, was established in the late 1970's, and the presence of rows of trees, such as the predominant Port Jackson Figs between Sails Restaurant and New South Head Road follow the old street alignment of Sunderland Avenue. Three Moreton Bay Figs of similar size are also in this row. These trees have been successfully incorporated in the design and divide the major playing field from informal active sports area.

The spectacular row of Moreton Bay Figs between the playing field and New South Head Road are the most dramatic landscape element in the park. These Figs are of massive proportions and scale, dominating the character of this part of Rose Bay and forming an historic landmark planting of visual significance from the harbour and local district. An interesting gradation of size and scale also occurs in this planting, ranging to the largest specimens at the eastern end. Most of these trees have been heavily underpruned, unfortunately reducing to some degree their natural balance and form. The young Tuckeroo (*Cupaniopsis anacardioides*) planted near-by should in time address this imbalance. A single large specimen Fig is also planted near the playground and adjacent to this main row. Further substantial Moreton Bay Fig plantings along the carpark garden beds and in the lawn adjacent to Sails Restaurant are also important visual components of this park, however would be of a later period than the very large Figs near New South Head Road.

The second important grouping of trees are the informally arranged accent plantings of Norfolk Island Pines, which together with the large Moreton Bay Figs define a distinctive bay-side park quality of great historic and visual significance. The main Pine cluster is located along the western edge and vehicular entry to the park. Two further remnant specimens of these Pines are located in association with a large Hill's Weeping Fig (*Ficus hillii*), along the foreshore footpath, near the new playground and another significant grove of five Pines occurs between the Woollahra Sailing Club and the Rose Bay RSL Club. (Refer to Listing: Significant Street Trees - Vickerey Avenue). Furthermore, this massing of Pines is visually supported by another group associated with the property 629 New South Head Road, corner of Balfour Road (Refer to Listing). Together these Norfolk Island Pines provide the vertical accent and visual context for Rose Bay, particularly on the western approach along New South Head Road and significantly from the harbour.

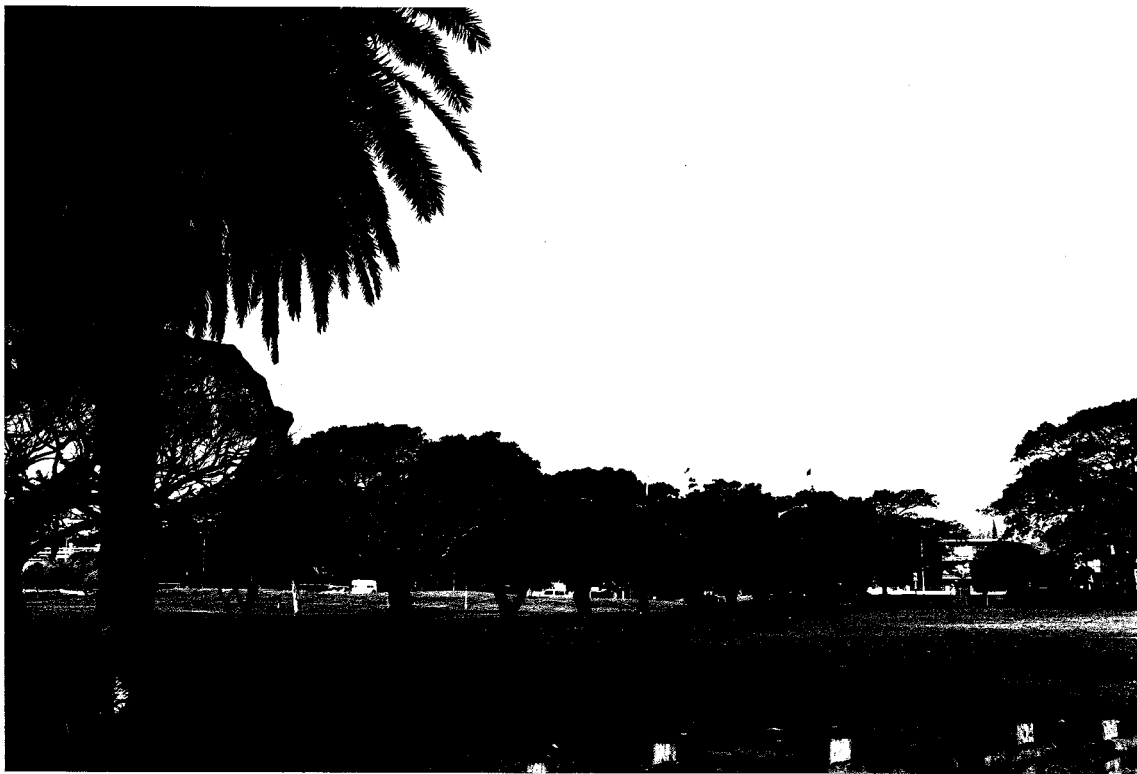
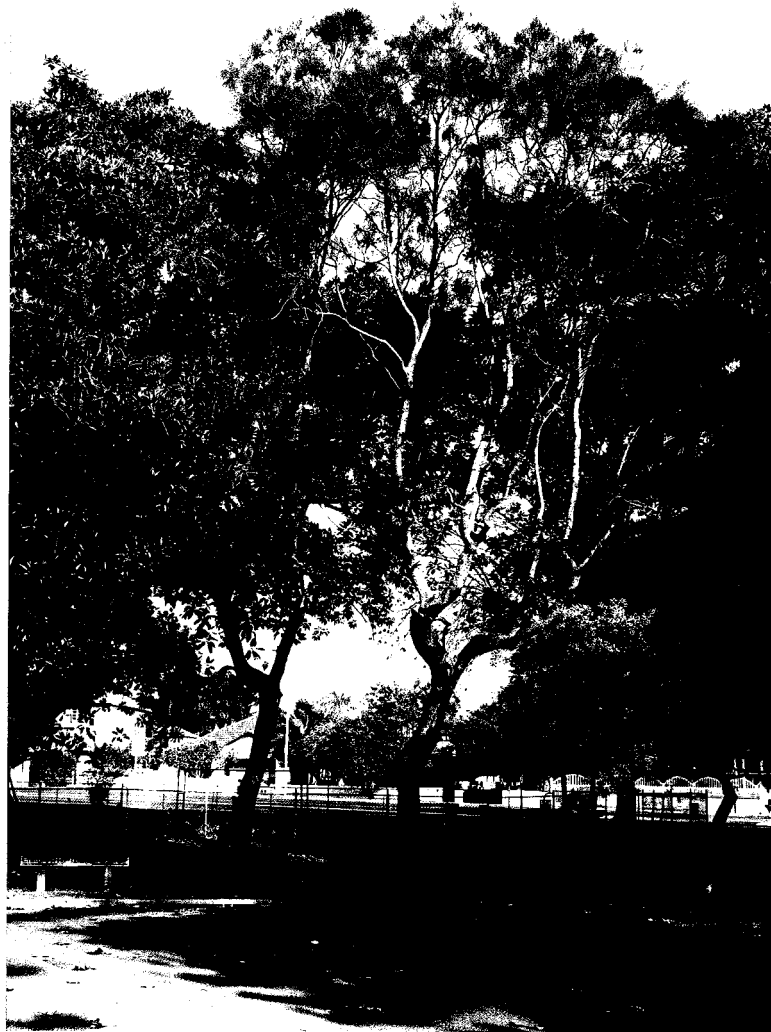
The third major group, another accent planting, is the botanically important row of Silver Date Palms (*Phoenix sylvestris*) along the carpark area. These palms, superficially similar to the common Canary Island Date Palm, are indeed an uncommon species amongst the Municipality's range of specimen plantings. These palm plantings are possibly associated with the surge of interest and the period of mixed street palm planting in Bellevue Hill. Other palms are also included here in this scheme, such as a lone Canary Island Date Palm (*Phoenix canariensis*) within the row of Silver Date Palms, near the amenities block and three remaining Dwarf Date Palms (*Phoenix roebelenii*) on the lawn verge near the exit of the carpark.

Of further note are the two very old Swamp Oaks (*Casuarina glauca*), in this area, now being overtaken by the adjacent expanding Fig canopy. These trees are possibly indigenous regrowth and descendants of the original bay vegetation and if so would be botanically significant for the Rose Bay area. The species has been planted over the past decade and a half firstly in the neighbouring Tingara Reserve, next to the "Wintergarden" property and later in Rose Bay Park. Three London Plane Trees (*Platanus X hybrida*) in the old playground, New Zealand Christmas Trees (*Metrosideros tomentosa*) along the street frontage and a lone visually significant specimen Firewheel Tree (*Stenocarpus sinuatus*) in the Memorial Garden make up a visually important balance of plantings in this corner of the park.

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Woollahra Municipal Council  
Register of Significant Trees

17.05.91

**Rose Bay Park, and Police Station  
Formerly Woollahra House Lodge), Rose Bay.  
Recorded: National Trust Register (Police Station)**

Govt. Authority/ Management: Woollahra Municipal Council

Summary of Listed Trees:

13 No. Moreton Bay Figs (*Ficus macrophylla*)

4 No. Port Jackson Figs (*Ficus nubiginosa*)

1 No. Cook Pine (*Araucaria columnaris*)

Botanical Name: *Ficus macrophylla*  
Common Name: Moreton Bay Fig

Significance  
Attributes: Informal Groupings  
Historic  
Visual Dominance (Harbour/ District/ Local)  
Origin: Ornamental/ Cultivated

Location: Some Figs are located along Wunulla Road on the lawn verge and top of embankment, while most of the Figs are located on the New South Head Road embankments and the lower flat area adjacent to the foreshores.

Height: up to 25 metres  
Canopy Spread: up to 30 metres  
Trunk Diameter: up to 3.0 metres (@ 1.0 metre above ground level)  
Estimated Age: 100+ years

Condition/ Health: Figs are generally in very good condition and health with strong new growth and very dense and expansive canopies. No potential threats to trees at present.

Botanical Name: *Ficus rubiginosa*  
Common Name: Port Jackson Fig

Significance  
Attributes: Mixed Group Plantings  
Historic  
Visual Dominance (Harbour/ District/ Local)

Origin: Ornamental/ Cultivated

Location: These Figs occur as a minor component of the dominant Moreton Bay Fig plantings along the embankments and adjacent to the Water Board Pumping Station.

Height: up to 18 metres  
Canopy Spread: up to 22 metres  
Trunk Diameter: up to 1.5 metres (@ 1.0 metre above ground level)

## Rose Bay Park, and Police Station, Rose Bay. (cont'd)

Estimated Age: 100+ years  
Condition/ Health: Figs are generally in very good condition and health.

Botanic Name: *Araucaria columnaris*  
Common Name: Cook Pine

Significance  
Attributes: Single Specimen  
Historic  
Visual Dominance (Harbour/ District/ Local)

Origin: Ornamental/ Cultivated  
Location: The Cook Pine is located to the north of the Police Station.  
Height: 30 metres  
Canopy Spread: 5 metres  
Trunk Diameter: 900 mm (@ 1.0 metre above ground level)  
Estimated Age: 100+ years

Condition/ Health: This single trunk specimen is in very good condition and health.

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### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Rose Bay Park and the grounds surrounding Rose Bay Police Station, located on the corner of New South Head Road and Wunulla Road, contain remnant plantings of great historic significance. The park and the streetscape along this part of Wunulla Road are dominated by Moreton Bay Figs with three of the largest specimens being located along the top of the embankment adjacent to Wunulla Road. These outstanding Figs totally dominate the visual character of this location and together with a mix of other neighbouring trees, including a large grove of Blackbean (*Castanospermum australe*), Camphor Laurel (*Cinnamomum camphora*) and an unidentified, indigenous rain forest specimen, form a densely canopied cathedral affect over the carriageway. The most northerly Fig along Wunulla Road is of particularly massive proportions, multi-trunked and significant in its own right.

These trees likely formed part of the avenue along the Cooper family's "Henrietta Villa" estate. The Police Station, originally an Italianate style lodge and gatekeeper's residence was built in 1871 and until as recently as the 1970's Pines also were still remaining as part of this avenue. The only remaining *Araucaria*, a Cook Pine (*Araucaria columnaris*), is one of the most visually prominent specimens of this species in the Municipality. Its size, age, history, distinctive curved trunk and this a visual prominence, particularly from the eastern approach along New South Head Road, make this tree very significant. Furthermore, the Plum Pine (*Podocarpus elatus*) next to the Cook Pine is another remnant of this original scheme.

These Pines and Figs are notable as typical of plantings from the early 19th century up to the early 20th century, at which time subdivision of large estates increased dramatically. Their size and scale lend themselves to grand landscape schemes appropriate to these early large estates. The lush green foliage of these trees continues a general theme throughout the parks of this Municipality and their elevated location makes them visually significant from the harbour as well as local environs. Most of the Figs on the lower embankments and flat area adjacent to the foreshores, are not of the same size and scale as the Wunulla Road figs however they are significant as a dense massing, forming a very important green-belt in this location, before the highly built-up Point Piper area. Other ornamental trees of note include a large Holm Oak (*Quercus ilex*) at the eastern end of the park and Radiata Pine (*Pinus radiata*). Remnant regrowth of original vegetation are now rare, but include a lone Coastal Banksia (*Banksia integrifolia*) on the embankment below the Police Station.

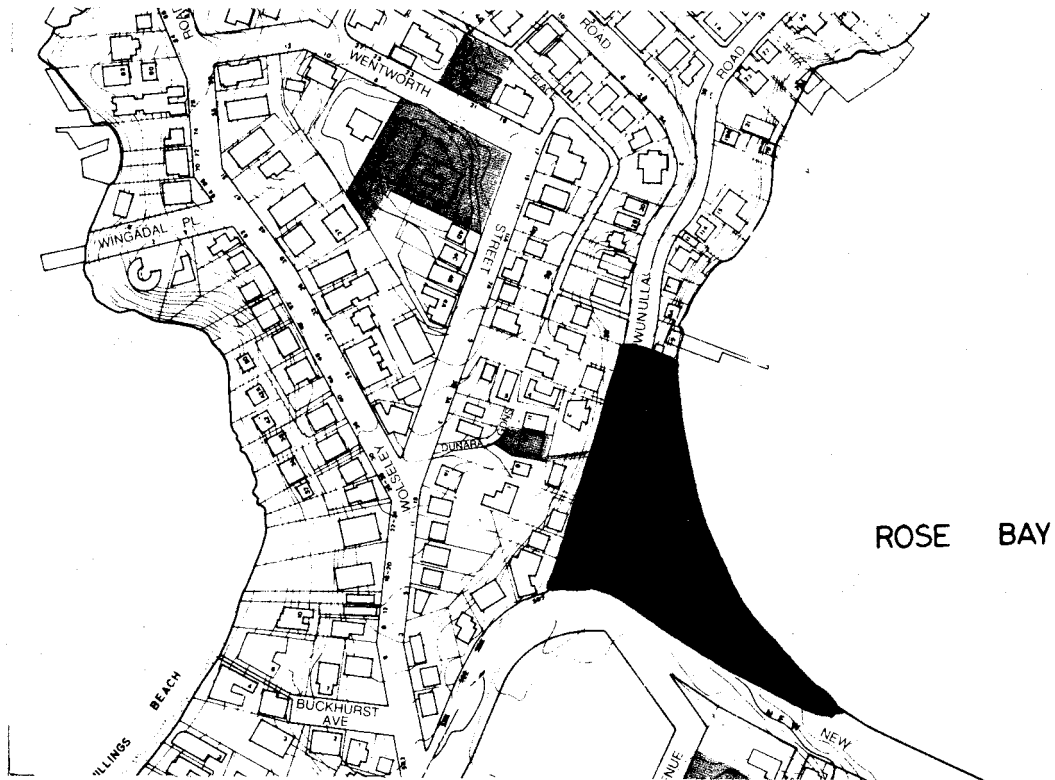
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## 3.0 SURVEY DATA SHEETS

### **Significant Trees in Public Parks**

#### **3.10 Vacluse**

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Woollahra Municipal Council  
Register of Significant Trees

28.06.91

### Strickland House, (formerly Carrara) and grounds

Classified: National Trust Register

Ownership: NSW State Government /Proposed Public Park

Summary of Listed Trees: 6 No. Himalayan Pines (*Pinus roxburghii*)/ 1 No. Monterey Pine (*P. radiata*)

Indigenous Remnants and  
Mixed Plantings as listed.

Botanical Name: *Pinus roxburghii/ Pinus radiata*

Common Name: Himalayan Pine/ Monterey Pine

Significance

Attributes: Informal Avenue Grouping'  
Historic  
Visual Dominance (Harbour/ District/ Local)

Origin: Ornamental/ Cultivated

Location: Informal grouping along both sides of entry road, in derelict garden beds and lawn verges.

Height: up to 21 meters

Canopy Spread: up to 20+ metres

Trunk Diameter: 700-1000 mm (@ 1.0 metre above ground level)

Estimated Age: 100+ years

Condition/ Health: Most of the exotic pines are in poor condition and health, displaying signs of senescence with poor apical growth and considerable dead wood in the crowns.

### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

These grounds, dominated by the 1854-56 Italianate mansion, originally known as "Carrara", were until recently the property of Strickland Convalescent Hospital, and now proposed as public open space. The site, located above Milk Beach and adjacent to the Hermitage Foreshore Reserve, extends from Hermit Bay to Nielsen Park and is of very high visual prominence from the harbour.

The grounds contain a large number of exotic specimen trees and palms, set out in the gardenesque style, as well as some interesting remnant regrowth of the original shrubby open forest and littoral rain forest. The described area is generally in a poor state of neglect and this unfortunately has over a long period of time seriously degraded the significance and quality of much of the original specimen plantings. Under new management, design and improved maintenance practices many of these specimen trees, including the indigenous elements, should however regain their former visual dominance.

## **Strickland House, (formerly Carrara) and grounds (cont'd)**

These remnant plantings are of great historic and botanic significance and include many shrubs and trees of note. The Himalayan Pines, although of relatively small stature for this species, is a significant historic grouping along the entry drive and an ornamental species of some rarity in this Municipality. These pines together with the Monterey Pine, Willows (*Salix babylonica*), Poplars (*Populus deltoides*) and two Hoop Pines (*Araucaria cunninghamii*) would have once formed a larger glade of trees providing the canopy to the now overgrown ornamental gardens bordering the gully.

This area and the adjoining gully also supports indigenous groves of Sydney Pink Gum (*Angophora costata*) and possibly hybrid forms of Swamp Mahogany (*Eucalyptus robusta*), Bangalay (*E. botryoides*) and Forest Red Gum (*E. tereticornis*) in association with substantial regrowth of Port Jackson Figs (*Ficus rubiginosa*) and other disclimax and depauperate rain forest species. A particularly fine cluster of these figs occurs on the north-western side of the residence, near the steps to the gully. Most areas of significant indigenous regrowth are in poor condition with many indigenous species having little opportunity at present to compete with rampant, uncontrolled weed species. Furthermore, the aggressive growth and reproductive strategies of these weed species if left unchecked, will continue to limit viability and downgrade species diversity of these important indigenous, remnant communities.

A large Southern Magnolia (*Magnolia grandiflora*) and Moreton Bay Fig (*Ficus macrophylla*) dominate the space adjacent to the residence and the old tennis court lawn. In addition, a very old and significant pair of Cabbage Palms (*Livistona australis*) occur on the slopes leading to Milk Beach. These are likely indigenous remnants and indicative of the original depauperate and littoral rain forest flora of this location.

The area immediately to the east of the residence, contains a substantial grove of palms and native rain forest species, in great need of care and maintenance. Large trees, such as Camphor Laurel (*Cinnamomum camphora*), Illawarra Flame Tree (*Srachycton acerifolium*) and a visually significant Hoop Pine (*Araucaria cunninghamii*) form a substantial canopy over this grove and roadway. A rare and botanically significant specimen Fig is also present in this grouping, possibly the Deciduous Fig (*Ficus superba* var. *henneana*) and it so one of only two known trees of this species in the Municipality. Unfortunately this specimen has been severely lopped in the past, removing much of its canopy and seriously disturbing this once magnificent specimen. The palm species here include the dominant Canary Island Date Palm (*Phoenix canariensis*) as well as other Phoenix spp., a Washington Palm (*Washingtonia robusta*), Kentia Palms (*Howea forsteriana*) and the indigenous Cabbage Palm (*Livistona australis*).

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Woollahra Municipal Council  
Register of Significant Trees

25.06.91

### Vaucluse Park (Wentworth Road), Vaucluse.

Classified: National Trust Register

Govt. Authority/ Management: Historic Houses Trust  
Summary of Listed Trees:

- 1 No. Moreton Bay Fig (*Ficus macrophylla*)
- 1 No. Bunya Pine (*Araucaria bidwillii*)
- 2 No. Hoop Pine (*Araucaria cunninghamii*)
- 14 No. Broadleaf Paperbark (*Melaleuca quinquenervia*)
- 1 No. Bald Cypress ~*Taxodium distichum*)
- 2 No. Ully Pilly (*Acmena smithii*)

Indigenous Remnants and Mixed Tree and  
Palm Grove plantings as listed.

Botanical Name: *Ficus macrophylla*  
Common Name: Moreton Bay Fig  
Significance  
Attributes: Single Specimen  
Historic  
Visual Dominance (District/ Local)

Origin: Ornamental/ Cultivated

Location: Fig is located on the western side of the watercourse and beside the outdoor terrace of the tea-room, within the rain forest plantings.

Height: 27 metres  
Canopy Spread: 30 metres  
Trunk Diameter: 2.5 metres (@ 1.0 metre above ground level)  
Buttressed Base: 7 metres  
Estimated Age: 120+ years

Condition/ Health: This Fig is in excellent condition and health with strong new growth and a dense and expansive canopy. The Fig has a considerable pruning history primarily to the lower limbs. The integrity and form however have been completely retained. No potential threats to the tree at present.

Botanical Name: *Araucaria bidwillii*  
Common Name: Bunya Pine  
Significance  
Attributes: Single Specimen  
Historic  
Visual Dominance (District/ Local)

## Vaucluse Park, Vaucluse. (cont'd)

Origin:	Ornamental/ Cultivated
Location:	The pine is located on the western side of the watercourse, within the palm grove and in association with the neighbouring Hoop Pine.
Height:	25 metres
Canopy Spread:	14 metres
Trunk Diameter:	1.4 metres (@ 1.0 metre above ground level)
Estimated Age:	120+ years
Condition/ Health:	This Bunya Pine is an excellent specimen with a very broad and dense crown.
Botanical Name:	<i>Araucaria cunninghamii</i>
Common Name:	Hoop Pine
Significance Attributes:	Two Major Specimens Historic Visual Dominance (District/ Local)
Origin:	Ornamental/ Cultivation
Location:	Pine A - located on the western side of the watercourse, within the palm grove. Pine B - located on the western lawn, near the cottage. (Note: A smaller specimen is also located on the eastern lawn and entry to the residence).
Heights:	Pine A: 29 metres; Pine B: 27 metres.
Canopy Spreads:	Pine A: 12 metres; Pine B: 14 metres.
Trunk Diameters:	Pine A: 900 mm; Pine B: 1000mm (@ 1.0 metre above ground level)
Estimated Age:	120+ years
Condition/ Health:	Pine A showing signs of senescence (ageing and physiological decline) with dead wood in the crown and no apical growth evident. Pine B is in very good condition and health.
Botanical Name:	<i>Melaleuca quinquenervia</i>
Common Name:	Broadleaf Paperbark
Significance Attributes:	Informal Group Visual Dominance (District/ Local)
Origin:	Ornamental/ Cultivated
Location:	Grove located adjacent to the main carpark and amenities block on the western side of the watercourse. Two other equally large specimens located in the swale near Wentworth Avenue.
Height:	Range up to 21 metres
Canopy Spread:	Combined - 60 metres

## Vaucluse Park, Vaucluse. (cont'd)

Trunk Diameter: 2.0+ metres (@ 1.0 metre above ground level)  
Estimated Age: 80+ years  
Condition Health: All trees are in very good condition and health.

Botanical Name: *Taxodium distichum*  
Common Name: Bald Cypress

Significance  
Attributes: Single Specimen  
Historic  
Visual Dominance (District/ Local)  
Origin: Ornamental/ Cultivated  
Location: Located on the large western lawn area near Olola Avenue.  
Height: 22 metres  
Canopy Spread: 26 metres  
Trunk Diameter: 2.0 metres (@ 1.0 metre above ground level)  
Estimated Age: 100+ years  
Condition/ Health: This tree is in good condition and health.

Botanical Name: *Acmena smithii*  
Common Name: Lilly Pilly

Significance  
Attributes: Two Specimens  
Historic  
Visual Dominance (District/ Local)  
Origin: Ornamental/ Cultivated  
Location: These trees are located along the eastern swale, adjacent to the watercourse and set back from Wentworth Road.  
Heights: 18 metres  
Canopy Spreads: 20 metres  
Trunk Diameters: 900 mm (@ 1.0 metre above ground level)  
Estimated Age: 100+ years  
Condition/ Health: Both trees are excellent specimens with very broad dense canopies, totally dominating this part of the grounds and palm grove.

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## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Vaucluse Park, an area defined by Olola Avenue and extending across Wentworth Road to the bay contains one of the most picturesque landscapes in the Municipality. Originally, an 80 acre grant to Thomas Laycock, the first residence was built in 1803 and subsequently passed to Charles Wentworth in 1827. The original residence was successively upgraded and considerably enlarged to the gothic-styled residence and associated outbuildings, stables and gardens that are on the site today.

## Vaucluse Park, Vaucluse. (cont'd)

The favourable location and micro-climate together with the cultural history and long period of relative isolation of this area, has provided a park of outstanding visual cultural historic and botanic significance. The park offers a rare combination of indigenous significant remnant vegetation as well as historic plantings of great importance. The park is set out in a combined Gardenesque and English Landscape Style, containing a remarkable diversity of very old ornamental and particularly Australian rain forest species, reflecting a range of landscape influences and tastes typical of the 19th century.

The Moreton Bay Fig is a majestic specimen, totally dominating this part of the property and providing a high "ceiling" canopy over the outdoor terrace and the palm/ treefern dominated watercourse. There are also other Moreton Bay Figs at the rear of the stables and in the park grounds, however these are generally smaller and of less significance than this particular specimen. The Hoop Pines, Bunya Pines and Figs are an integral component of the early cultural planting of the area and indeed the whole of this Municipality, since the early 19th century, and as such form part of the dominant visual and historic character of this park.

The ornamental palm grove and associated tree ferns which border the central watercourse are possibly the most visually stunning landscape elements in the park, providing a focus and a cool, lush micro-climate for a wide range of sub-tropical species. The grove is dominated by the native Bangalow Palm (*Archontophoenix cunninghamiana*) with more than 50 mature individuals. Together with the large range of other native and exotic palms and rough Tree Ferns (*Cyathea cooperi*), this grove in terms of botanic and historic significance in the Municipality, is second only to the "Overthorpe" palm group in Double Bay. Other palms of significance in this grove include the following:

- 6 No. Washington Palms (*Washingtonia robusta*)
- 11 No. Cabbage Palms (*Livistona australis*)
- 5 No. Queen Palms (*Arecastrum romanzoffianum*)
- 5 No. Kentia Palms (*Howea forsteriana*)
- 4 No. Canary Island Date Palm (*Phoenix canariensis*)
- 2 No. Senegal Date Palm (*Phoenix reclinata*)

Other important historic and cultural plantings of exotic origins include the lone specimen Bald Cypress (*Taxodium distichum*), Monterey Pines (*Pinus radiata*), Eastern Cottonwoods (*Populus deltoides*), Camphor Laurel (*Cinnamomum camphora*), Southern Magnolia (*Magnolia grandiflora*), English Oak (*Quercus robur*) and Jacaranda (*Jacaranda mimosifolia*), Mixed rain forest specimens are represented by three Red Cedar (*Toona australis*), one of which is located in the western courtyard to the house, and Macadamia Tree (*Macadamia integrifolia*), Firewheel Tree (*Stenocarpus sinuatus*) and the Illawarra Flame Tree (*Brachychiton acerifolium*). A very large Norfolk Island Hibiscus (*Lagunaria patersonia*) and Port Jackson Fig (*Ficus rubiginosa*) are also located at the eastern side of the residence. A fine specimen Kauri Pine (*Agathis robusta*) occurs near the old location of the front entry gates on the Olola Avenue street verge (east side). All these trees are important as supportive elements of the total composition and as such are significant trees in this park.

The visually important grove of paperbarks is a central grouping of native trees which link the carpark to the historic buildings and other major landscape elements (incl. the palm grove along the watercourse and the ornamental shrub beds). These trees are possibly a later addition to the landscape in the early part of this century.

The ornamental plantings are a cultural overlay on the pre-existing landscape and it is difficult, after almost 200 years of development in this area, to determine the pattern and diversity of original vegetation in this bay. There are however reminders of this diversity even today. This valley would have supported an originally complex vegetation community. These richer shale-derived soils, topping sandstones, still form the basis of the Municipality's only remaining Forest Red Gum (*Eucalyptus tereticornis*) dominated forest. Swamp Mahogany (*E. robusta*), Turpentine (*Syncarpia glommullifera*) and Sydney Pink Gum (*Angophora costata*) are important co-dominants, the latter becoming dominant further up the valley slopes on Hawkesbury Sandstone.

## Vaucluse Park, Vaucluse. (cont'd)

Remnants of this original open forest are contained within the perimeter of the park along Olola Avenue and indeed extend to from the Parsley Bay area in the east, to Vaucluse Bay and on to Nielsen Park in the west. The area contains the largest remaining pool of harbourside indigenous vegetation in the Municipality and is significant in providing visual continuity and habitat linkage along these foreshores and parks. These trees form a fundamentally important indigenous framework and character for this part of Vaucluse and yet these trees continue to be threatened by indiscriminate clearing and poisoning in the course of building development and view retention for private properties. This is a very real threat to these trees at present. Apart from trees on private property, many trees along the perimeter of the park have a history of vandalism, particularly poisoning from herbicides.

This sheltered valley also contains remnants of a rich mixed understorey ranging from dry heathland to mesic and rain forest elements. For example, the portion of the park adjacent to the bay, along the immediate littoral edge, supports many remnant littoral and depauperate rain forest shrubs and small trees. These occur under the canopy of a significant grove of Forest Red Gums (*E. tereticornis*) and adjacent to an indigenous grove of Swamp Oak (*Casuarina glauca*) near the watercourse outlet from Vaucluse Park. Within this stand occurs a single mature, self-sown and possible descendant of the original Cabbage Palms (*Livistona australis*) which would have likely flourished here 200 years ago. Mature littoral rain forest trees are present within Vaucluse Park, particularly in the watercourse swale near Wentworth Road. Some of these are more likely ornamental plantings such as the two magnificent listed Lilly Pilly (*Acmena smithii*) and Hairy Alectryon (*Alectryon tomentosus*), while others including the three slender trees near the Wentworth Road, Brush Cherry (*Syzygium australe*) and an unidentified species are more difficult to explain as ornamentals.

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## 3.0 SURVEY DATA SHEETS

### **Significant Trees in Public Parks**

#### **3.11 Watsons Bay**

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Woollahra Municipal Council  
Register of Significant Trees

01.07.91

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**DP**
**Camp Cove Park, Watson's Bay.**

Govt. Authority/ Management: Woollahra Municipal Council

Summary of Listed Trees:

2 No. Moreton Bay Figs (*ficus macrophylla*)

Botanical Name: *Ficus macrophylla*  
Common Name: Moreton Bay Fig

Significance  
Attributes: Informal Pair Grouping  
Historic  
Visual Dominance (Local)  
Origin: Ornamental/ Cultivated

Location: Located in the park, next to the southern boundary to residences fronting on to Pacific Street. Roots and some of the canopy extend over this boundary.

Height: 17 metres  
Canopy Spread: combined canopy - 45 metres  
Trunk Diameter: 3.0 metres (@ 1.0 metre above ground level)  
Estimated Age: 100+ years

Condition Health: Generally in very good condition and health with little dead wood and dense crowns. Severe pruning/ alignment of canopies occurs on the property boundary and this should be avoided if possible as it seriously compromises the balance and form of these trees.

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**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

These two magnificent specimens totally dominate this small park which occupies the site of an original lagoon and marshland. These trees have dramatic scale and horizontally spreading forms with massive buttressed roots extending over a large area under the canopies. Both Figs, one in particular, have developed large low lateral branches of distinctive form, similar to the specimen Fig in front of "Fisherman's Lodge", Robertson Park, but on a much grander scale.

Furthermore, these Figs are significant in being an integral component of the early cultural planting of this area. Of further interest, one of the branches of the larger specimen Fig has grown over the old swing and coalesced around the timber frame as a physical support.

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Woollahra Municipal Council  
Register of Significant Trees

28.06.91

### Robertson Park, Watson's Bay.

Govt. Authority/ Management: Woollahra Municipal Council  
Summary of Listed Trees:

Moreton Bay Figs (*Ficus macrophylla*)  
6 No. Norfolk Island Pines (*Araucaria heterophylla*)  
38 No. Canary Island Date Palms (*Phoenix canariensis*)

Botanical Name: *Ficus macrophylla*  
Common Name: Moreton Bay Fig

Significance  
Attributes: Groupings and Specimen Planting  
Historic  
Visual Dominance (Harbour/ District/ Local)

Origin: Ornamental/ Cultivated

Location: Major grove located within the park, adjacent to the bay-side promenade and the wharf area. Other groves and individual specimens are located generally within the boundary plantings, particularly adjacent to the Hotel and in front of "Dunbar House".

Height: up to 15+ metres  
Canopy Spread: up to 40+ metres  
Trunk Diameter: 2.5 metres (@ no metre above ground level)  
Buttressed Base: up to 8 metres  
Estimated Age: 130+ years

Condition/ Health: These Figs are generally in fair to good condition and health, especially considering their age and survival ability under a difficult wind and salt-swept environment. Most are very old disfigured specimens with partial canopies reflecting the environmental conditions with varying degrees of individual damage, dead wood, psyllid and borer attack. Nevertheless, strong new and dense growth is evident in the canopies and all seem to have improving vitality after a long period of deterioration. Recommend improved tree care and attention, including tree surgery, such as pruning dead wood, filling cavities and arresting borer damage.

Botanic Name: *Araucaria heterophylla*  
Common Name: Norfolk Island Pine

Significance  
Attributes: Specimen and possibly Row Plantings  
Historic  
Visual Dominance (Harbour/ District/ Local)

Origin: Ornamental/ Cultivated

## Robertson Park, Watson's Bay. (cont'd)

Location: Remnant Pines are scattered over the mid to upper area of the park, near the rotunda and playground.

Height: up to 31 metres  
Canopy Spread: 12 metres  
Trunk Diameter: 1.1 metres (@ 1.0 metre above ground level)  
Estimated Age: 120+ years

Condition Health: Most specimens are in late senescence with severe die-back to the crowns, considerable dead wood, broken main trunks and loss of apical growth. Recommend thorough watering during dry periods and fertilising program to renew vitality.

Botanical Name: *Phoenix canariensis*  
Common Name: Canary Island Date Palm

Significance  
Attributes: Avenue and Row Planting (and Remnant Specimens)  
Historic  
Visual Dominance (Harbour/ District/ Local)

Origin: Ornamental/ Cultivation

Location: 23 No. located in lawn adjacent to main diagonal footpath; 13 No. along Robertson Place and Clovelly Street near "Dunbar House" and 2 No. remnant specimens near Military Road.

Heights: 8+ metres CT (clear trunk)  
Canopy Spreads: 8 metres  
Estimated Age: 65+ years  
Condition/ Health: Generally in good condition and health. Dead fronds are removed annually under Council management programme. There have been some individual losses and new palms have been planted as long term replacements of this avenue.

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### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Robertson Park is a fine example of an early 20th century sea-side, pleasure park with its formal axial layout, expansive lawns, specimen plantings of Norfolk Island Pines and Figs and an avenue, possibly of First World War commemorative importance, utilising the stately Canary Island Date Palm. The park, designed and constructed, possibly in the 1920's under the management of Vaucluse Council, was in the style and tradition of many other Sydney harbour-side parks being developed during the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

The main avenue of Canary Island Date Palms (*Phoenix canariensis*) is one of the most significant visual elements of the park, fringing the diagonal footpath link between the wharf and the main retail area of Watson's Bay. Furthermore, the row planting adjacent to Robertson Place and Clovelly Street, near the c.1837 Georgian residence of Dunbar House (originally "Watson's Bay House"), continues and reinforces this particular theme planting. This palm avenue and row style represents the more recent overlay plantings in the park. Individual palms also exist in the perimeter plantings and these are possibly remnants of former now planting schemes.

## Robertson Park, Watson's Bay. (cont'd)

Moreover, Watson's Bay has a long history of development in parallel with the establishment of the settlement of Sydney and cultural plantings would have taken place on this site from the early 19<sup>th</sup> century. The Figs and Araucarias are much older specimens of great historic and visual significance to the Bay. The Norfolk Island Pines (*Araucaria heterophylla*) stand as tall sentinels and are very much the visual and cultural character of this location. These pines were used in the Watson's Bay area since the end of the 18th century and the establishment of the Signal Station and Macquarie Lighthouse. The trees were used as navigational aids for approaching ships, clearly identifying the entrance to the harbour and the colony by means of their distinctive height, visual accent and "exotic" form amongst otherwise "barren heaths". Apart from this utilitarian aspect the trees were also widely planted for their outstanding form and symmetry and their evocative charm of a greener English landscape. These trees are also highly adaptable to poor sandstone-derived soils and high exposure to salt-laden winds. The Norfolk Island Pines occurring in the park are remnants of these mainly earlier specimen plantings, possibly associated with the original residence of "Clovelly". Some smaller pines also appear to relate to the pedestrian cross-link through the park.

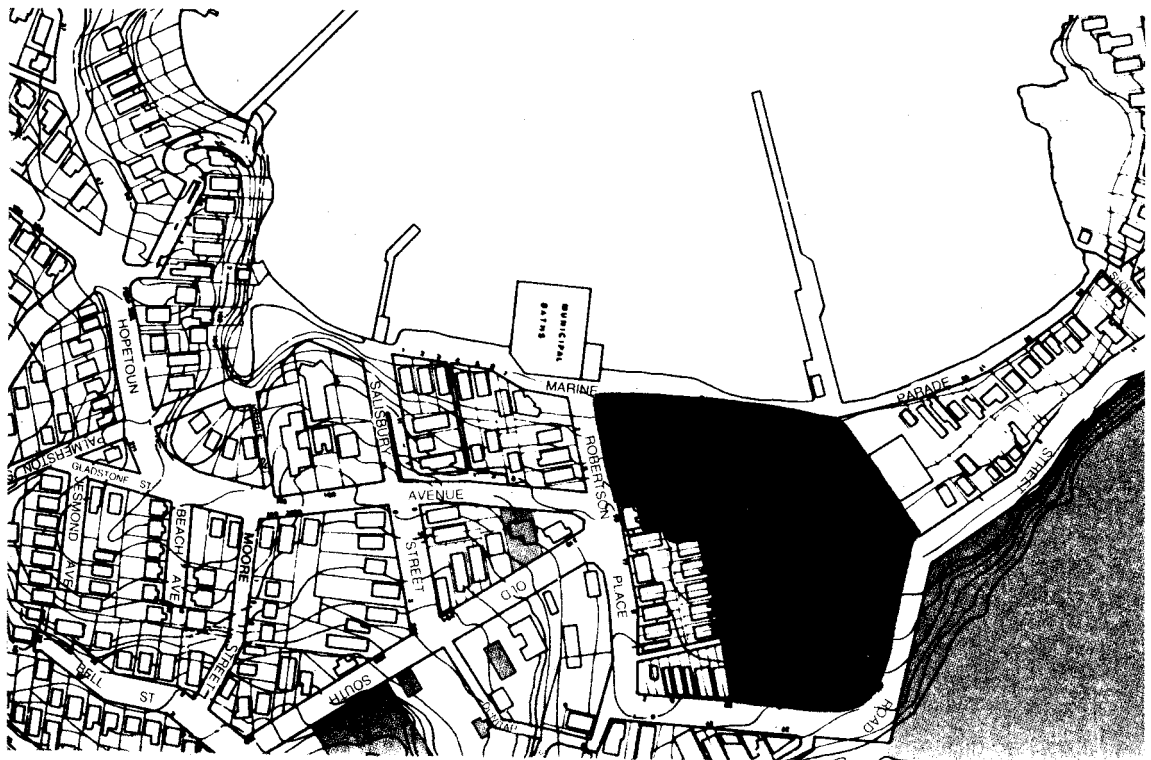
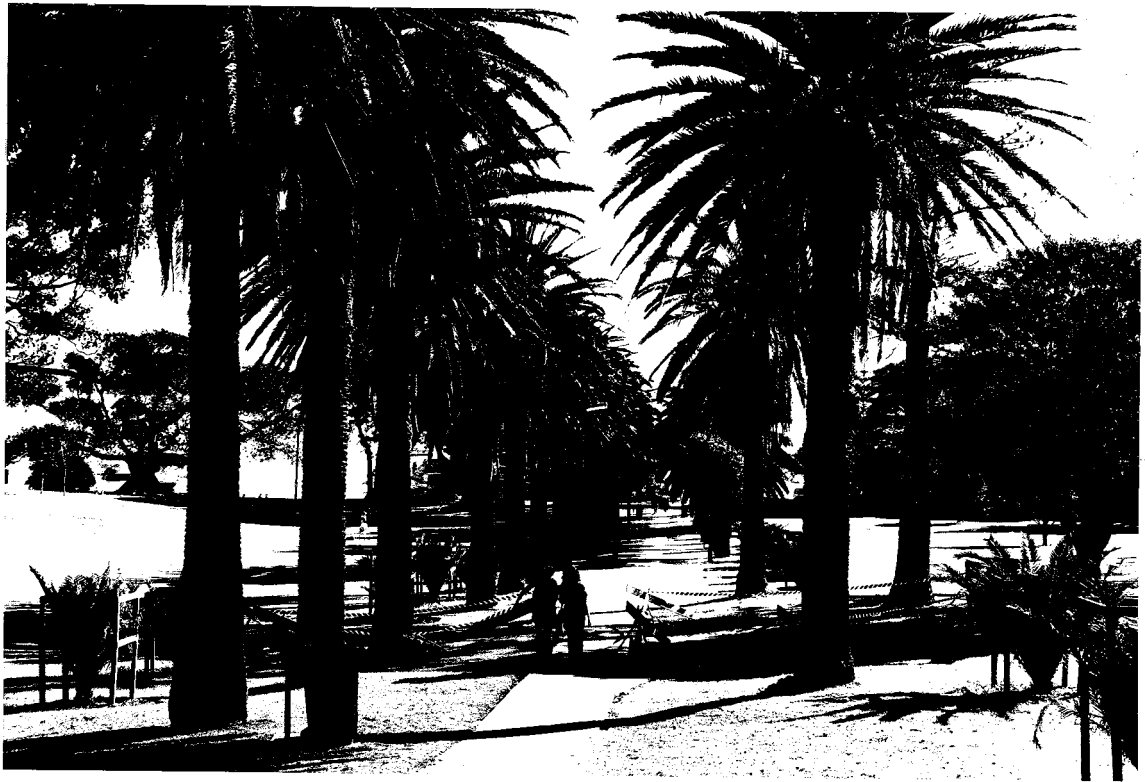
The perimeter of the park contains significant row plantings of Figs that serve to delineate the park boundaries and provide visual continuity with the major historic Moreton Bay Fig plantings. Of particular note are the Port Jackson Fig (*Ficus rubiginosa*) and Moreton Bay Fig (*F. macrophylla*) in front of "Dunbar House", the branches of the later being of a spectacular low-spreading nature in parallel with the waterfront and promenade. Similarly, three large specimen Figs are located adjacent to the Watson's Bay Hotel and Military Road intersection. These trees form a massive canopy over this part of Military Road and visually link with a large street tree, a Port Jackson Fig, on the pavement next to the beer garden and the outstanding grove of Moreton Bay Figs near the cul-de-sac and wharf area.

This main grove of Moreton Bay Figs totally dominates this portion of the park with their expansive canopies spreading over the promenade and beach. These Figs are the oldest and most visually significant trees in Watson's Bay, pre-dating the general landscaping to the park and possibly associated with the former historic estates of 'Clovelly' and "Dunbar House". Indeed, these four magnificent trees, with their spectacular canopies and sculptural detail, are amongst the most significant groupings of this species in the Municipality.

Although Moreton Bay Figs had an original rain forest distribution extending to the Illawarra region it is unlikely that these trees are indigenous remnants as the species is typical of the estate plantings throughout the 19th century. Their size and scale lend themselves to grand landscape schemes appropriate for early large estates. The lush green foliage of these trees continues a general theme throughout the Municipality and much of Sydney.

The park's commemorative history of plantings has been continued throughout the 20th century with the planting of Norfolk Island Hibiscus (*Lagunaria patersonis*) in 1960 to mark Woollahra Council's Centenary. More recently plantings have been carried out by Amnesty International and a young Fig in the major grove was planted in honour and dedication to the Hon. Raymond Aston M.P.

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## 4.0 APPENDIX A

### **Trees/ Palms of Visual Significance under Private Ownership**

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**4.7 Bellevue Hill Palms -  
in association with Street Palm Planting.**

LOCATION AND PROPERTY DESCRIPTION	NO	SIZE	PALM DESCRIPTION Botanic Name	Common Name
1 Foster Avenue	1	8m	Phoenix canariensis	Canary Island Date Palm
3 Foster Avenue	1	5m	Phoenix canariensis	Canary Island Date Palm
6 March Street	7	7m	Phoenix canariensis	Canary Island Date Palms
	2	15m	Washingtonia robusta	Washington Palms
1 Kambala Road	3	4-15m	Washingtonia robusta	Washington Palms
144 Bellevue Hill Road	1	11m	Washingtonia robusta	Washington Palm
73 Bulkara Road	3	12m	Washingtonia robusta	Washington Palm
	3	8m	Phoenix canariensis	Canary Island Date Palm
	-	8m	A. romanzoffianum	Queen Palms
35 Streafield Road	2	6m	Phoenix canariensis	Canary Island Date Palm

Note: All palm heights are clear trunk height (CT - to base of crown) and shown in metres.

**4.6 Point Piper Palms**

LOCATION AND PROPERTY DESCRIPTION	NO.	SIZE	PALM DESCRIPTION Botanic Name	Common Name
4 Longworth Avenue	2	11m	A. romanzoffianum	Queen Palms
9 Longworth Avenue	5	-	A. romanzoffianum	Queen Palms
33 Wunulla Road	1	-	Howea forsteriana	Kentia Palm
41 Wunulla Road	2	5m	A. romanzoffianum	Queen Palms
43 Wunulla Road	4	6m	A. romanzoffianum	Queen Palms
	2	10m	Arc. cunninghamiana	Bangalow Palms
51 Wunulla Road	1	-	Howea forsteriana	Kentia Palm
64 Wunulla Road	2	15m	Washingtonia robusta	Washington Palms

Note: All palm heights are clear trunk height (CT - to base of crown) and shown in metres.

#### 4.10 Vacluse Pines/ Palms

VERGE LOCATION/ PROPERTY DESCRIPTION	NO.	SIZE	PINE/PALM DESCRIPTION Botanic Name	Common Name
20 Boambillee Avenue (Chapel Road frontage)	1	8m	Phoenix canariensis	Canary Is. Date Palm
17 Coolong Road	1	12m	Washingtonia robusta	Washington Palm
	1	8m	Phoenix canariensis	Canary Is. Date Palm
	1	8m	Arc. cunninghamiana	Bangalow Palm
25 Coolong Road	1	18m	Araucaria heterophylla	Norfolk Is. Pine
33 Coolong Road	1	10m	Washingtonia robusta	Washington Palm
30 Fitzwilliam Road	1	10m	Washingtonia filifera	Cotton Palm
	1	15m	Washingtonia robusta	Washington Palm
34A Fitzwilliam Road (Anglican Church)	1	18m	Araucaria cunninghamii	Hoop Pine
10 Gilliver Avenue	2	18m	Washingtonia robusta	Washington Palms
	3	15m	Washingtonia robusta	Washington Palms
12 Gilliver Avenue	1	15m	Washingtonia robusta	Washington Palm
19 Gilliver Avenue	2	6m	A. romanzoffanum	Queen Palms
1 Olola Avenue	2	8-10m	Phoenix canariensis	Canary Is. Date Palms
13 Olola Avenue	1	15m	Washingtonia robusta	Washington Palms
Nurran Road	4	10m	Washingtonia robusta	Washington Palms
13 Parsley Road	1	12m	A. romanzoffanum	Queen Palm
(15) Parsley Road	2	15m	Washingtonia robusta	Washington Palms
(34) Parsley Road	1	12m	Washingtonia filifera	Cotton Palm
6 Queens Avenue	1	12m	A. romanzoffianum	Queen Palm
9 Vacluse Road	1	-	Washingtonia robusta	Washington Palms
13 Vacluse Road	1	18m	Washingtonia robusta	Washington Palms
18 Vacluse Road	1	8m	Arc. cunninghamiana	Bangalow Palms
42 Vacluse Road	1	10m	Washingtonia filifera	Cotton Palm
48 Vacluse Road	1	12m	Washingtonia robusta	Washington Palms
77 Vacluse Road	1	15m	A. romanzoffianum	Queen Palm
18 Wentworth Road	7	-	Livistona australis	Cabbage Palms
27 Wentworth Road	1	5m	Phoenix canariensis	Canary Is. Date Palms
28A-34 Wentworth Road (right-of-way)	1	6m	Phoenix canariensis	Canary Is. Date Palms
40 Wentworth Road	1	-	Washingtonia robusta	Washington Palm
	1	-	A.romanzoffianum	Queen Palms
43 Wentworth Road	1	20m	Araucaria heterophylla	Norfolk Is. Pine

Note: All palm heights are clear trunk height (CT - to base of crown) and shown in metres. Palms located on public street verges are shown thus (18), to denote location in front of or adjacent to this property number.

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