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MOORE PARK HERITAGE

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### 1.0 INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 Background

This report forms part of the documentation regarding the overall heritage significance of the study area and, together with the identified areas and items of significance making up the physical fabric of the study area, it contributes to the process of forming a Master Plan undertaken by HASSELL for the Centennial Park and Moore Park Trust (CPMPT).

#### 1.2 Study Area

The Study area is the area managed by the Centennial Parklands Trust and includes the remnant lands of Moore Park and the former Royal Agricultural Society's Grounds. Both of these areas have been identified as separate Conservation areas.

Moore Park and the Former RAS Showground represent a fraction of the former Sydney Common. Its history is associated with the creation of a powerful cultural landscape which transformed what to some was a sandy and barren wasteland into a useful collection of enclosed spaces for public recreational use.

The major themes that have contributed to its sense of place include; military uses, sport, commemorative installations, alienation of Common lands (the illegal change of use from the intended second Sydney Common) and provision of leisure facilities.

#### 1.3 Scope and Objectives

The purpose of this report is to recognise the heritage values of the study area, provide some understanding of its historical evolution, to review its heritage significance, to identify areas and items of significance and to inform the preparation of a master plan.

#### 1.4 Methodology

This report draws upon existing documentary sources and physical evidence, particularly an analysis of photographic images to gain an understanding of the physical evolution of the places. No detailed research was undertaken as part of the process but it is informed by existing documentation. It is not intended as a definitive work in terms of the history but gives some background on which to base future works.

### 2.0 HISTORY

#### 2.1 Natural Environment

Moore Park is located within the geological unit of Sydney known as the Botany Sands. The Botany Sands represent the northern edge of the Botany Basin and comprise a complex of Aeolian sand dunes of variable thickness with an underlying layer of interbedded clays, peats and sands. This material resulted in a natural landform of rounded sand dunes and expanses of gentle slopes with local depressions and exposed water table expressed as ponds and marshes. The north eastern corner of the original park contained exposed Hawkesbury Sandstone formations.

The Hawkesbury Sandstone formed a relatively high ridge system to the north and east with isolated outcrops throughout the Botany Sands system.

The ridge to the north and east acts as a wall to the sand environment of the former Botany estuary. Some Aeolian sand was deposited on the top of the ridge and slopes of the sandstone outcrops giving a visually deceptive rounded form in contrast to its more typical blocky and stepped form. Natural freshwater drainage seeps through the blocky jointed stone and runs off to collect as a natural aquifer in the Botany Sands.

The difference in drainage, altitude, aspect and exposure to south easterly and westerly winds resulted in subtle but different vegetation communities on the different systems. Both the Sandstone and the Sands shared similar heath plant species. A dry open heath occurred on the sandstone country whilst a range of vegetation formations existed on the sand country. These formations included; Low Forest, Open Scrub, Heath, Wet Heath and Freshwater Sedgeland. Considerable variation in structure and form occurred depending on aspect and localised soil, as well as the drainage conditions.

The Botany Sands had soils of a greater depth than those of the sandstone country.



## 2.2 Cultural Environment

The study area is part of the territory of the Darug Coastal Nation and part of the country associated with both the Gadigal and Gameygal clan groups dating from the post glacial formation of the coastal estuaries around 6500 years ago.

The British colonial occupation resulted in tracks from the new settlement at Sydney Cove to Botany Bay which cut across the Botany Sands expanse and evolved into a weaving alignment to skirt the then existing pattern of sandhills, ponds and wetlands distributed within the system. The main track which once meandered through the study area was known as the Old Botany Road. The French visitors of 1788, anchored in Botany Bay, used the more stable ground of the eastern sandstone ridge system to walk to Sydney Cove. This alignment is now recognised as Frenchman's Road

Moore Park was named by the Sydney Municipal Council in 1867. The name commemorates Charles Moore, Mayor of Sydney Municipal Council from 1867 to 1869 and as an alderman of Randwick Municipal Council from 1860 to 1886. The park comprised 378 acres (153 Ha) and included a major portion of Sydney's Second Common as proclaimed by Governor Macquarie on the 5<sup>th</sup> October 1811. The area of Macquarie's proclamation was 1000 acres (404.69 Ha). The Sydney Common was:

“... in the immediate vicinity of Sydney.... For the common  
pasturage of the cattle belonging to the inhabitants of Sydney...”  
(Historical Records of New South Wales Vol. 7,p.595)

Macquarie proposed that the boundaries of the Common should be marked by four posts, with suitable labels to be erected on most conspicuous parts of the ground.

The original boundaries were redefined and proclaimed on 17 August 1849 and published in the Government Gazette of New South Wales on 21 August 1849. At the same time Simon Henry Pearce was appointed Bailiff and later (1851 – 1856) as Commissioner of Crown Lands of the County of Cumberland. Pearce was an influential local resident of Randwick, as was Charles Moore. Pearce was the inaugural Mayor of Randwick in 1859 and a market gardener by occupation. Pearce also acted to police unauthorised quarrying of stone and sand as well as the dumping of night soil. Removal of indigenous vegetation and subsequent sand erosion were concerns of Randwick residents and ones that Pearce supported and attempted to control.

The establishment of horse training on the Botany Sands led to the Randwick Racecourse holding formal horse races in April 1833 on land to the south and

adjoining the southern boundary of the Common. This generated further roads and a branch road towards the growing villages of Randwick and Coogee on the sandstone country to the east from 1832 onwards.



Plate 1. Second Sydney Common. Parish of Alexandria Map nd. c.1830



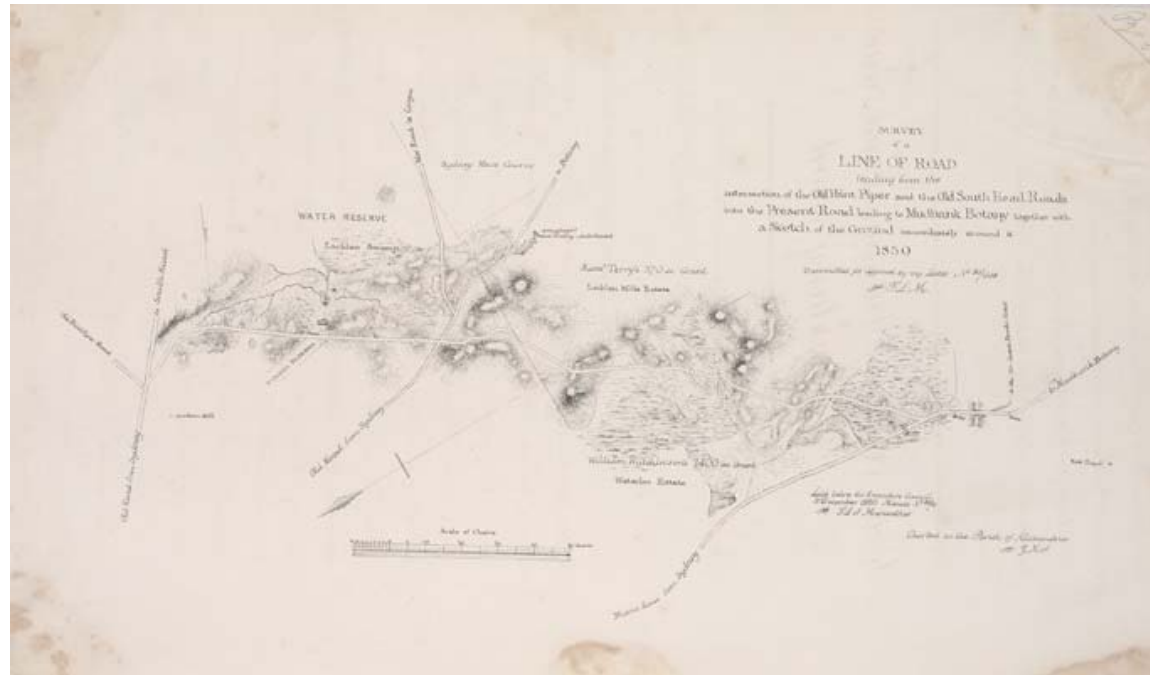


Plate 2. Line of roads leading to Botany 1850.

The Lachlan Swamps Water Reserve was established within the Common in 1837 and its naming commemorates Governor Lachlan Macquarie's vision for establishing commons. It was the source of water supplied to Hyde Park Sydney via Busby's Bore Tunnel which was constructed by convict labour and supervised by John Busby.

Water was delivered by 1830 and must have been an incentive to the idea of relocating the Military Barracks to within the north western edge of the Common. Planning commenced in 1836 to relocate the Military barracks from George Street, Sydney and a vertical bore sunk into the Tunnel Reserve.

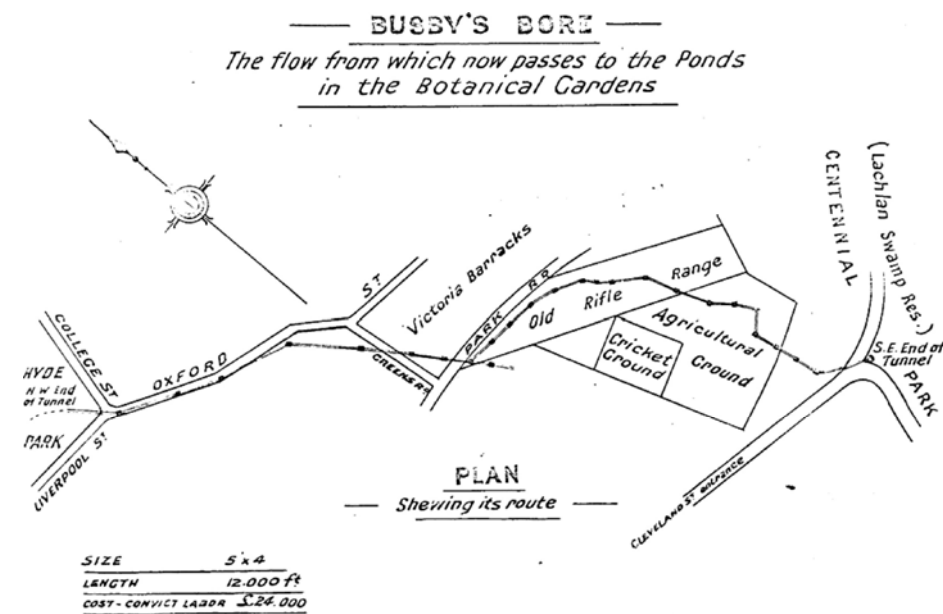


Plate 3. Line of Busby's Bore



Plate 4. Busby's Bore in Hyde Park

Victoria Barracks were constructed 1841 – 1846 using locally quarried sandstone and were occupied by British troops up until 1870.

In 1851 a grant of land within the Common was given to the British army for use as a soldier's cricket ground and a garden. The first match was played in 1854



Plate 5. Victoria Barracks 1871

The barracks complex was defined by a high sandstone wall as a defensive mechanism and to reduce invasion of wind blown sand.

A Rifle Range was constructed adjacent to the Military Cricket Ground and garden area and it took advantage of the sandstone formations to the east as a place to safely place targets.

The Military also used the expanses of the Common for marching, drilling and Military Parades whilst the engineers utilised the ponds as exercises in bridge building.



Plate 6. Military Rifle Range. ISN

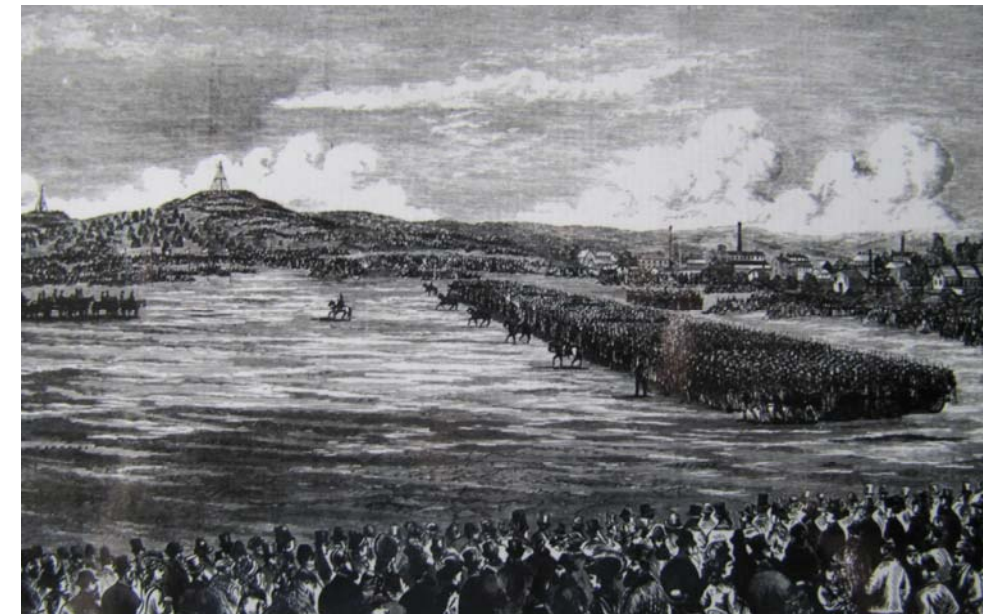


Plate 7. Military Parades. ISN

Another enclosed space was created in the south western corner of the Common for use as a cemetery. It was contained by the landforms of Mount Steele and Mount Rennie in an area now occupied by the Moore Park Golf Course. This cemetery appears to have been cancelled for further use following an 1861 Commission into the effect of Crown Land, Church and School Estate alienation on the city's water supply (the Lachlan and Botany Swamp system) as it was feared the cemetery would pollute the water supply. The access into the



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cemetery was by way of the present Crescent Street alignment and was associated with the location of Baptist's Nursery in Surry Hills.

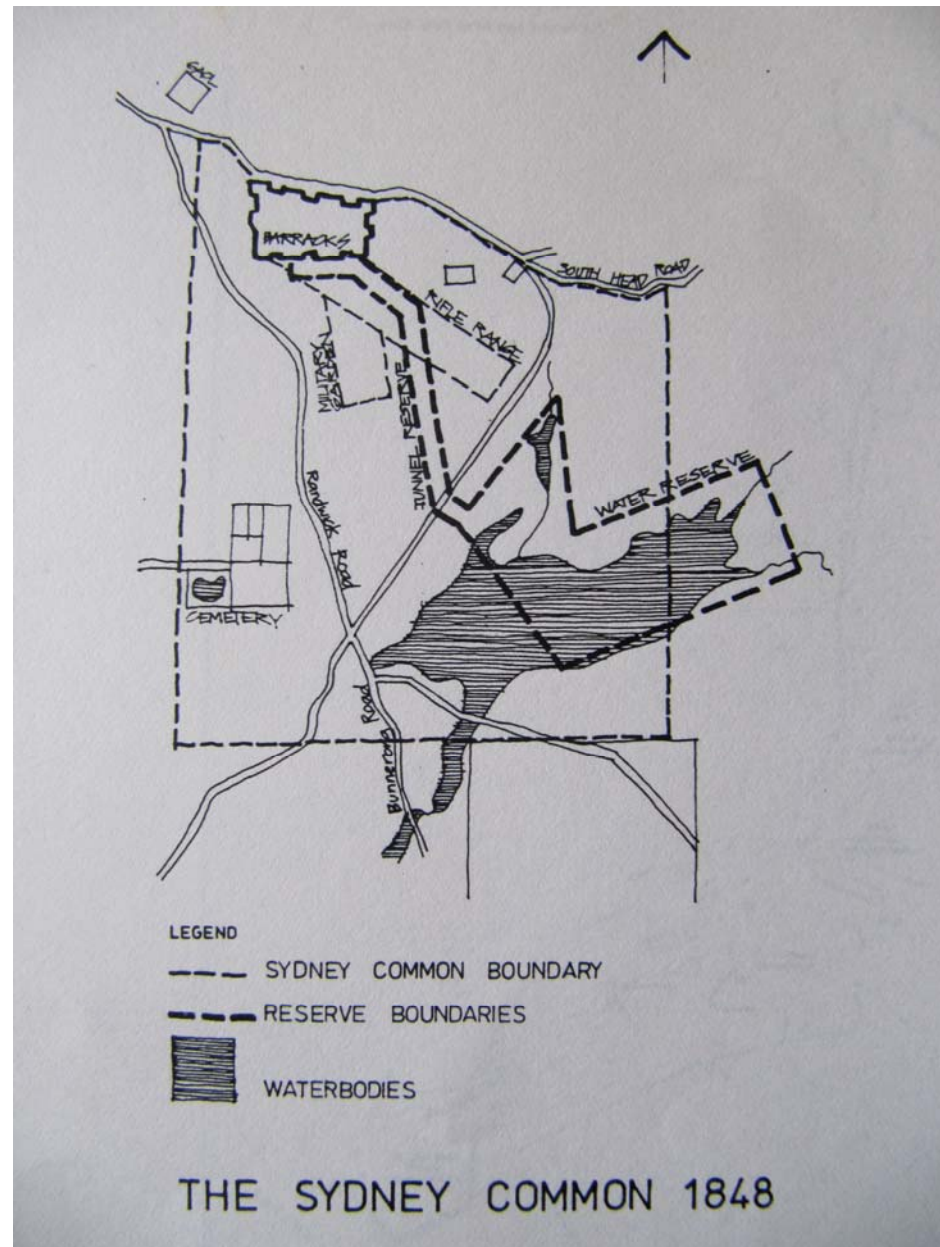


Plate 8. Sydney Common and alienated lands 1848 (Cabconsulting Pty Ltd)

Up until 1861 the northern boundary of the Sydney Common was defined by the South Head Road (now Oxford Street), the southern boundary by the Randwick Racecourse and the western boundary by South Dowling Street. Three roads had penetrated the Sydney Common by 1861. These were: Randwick Road (Old Botany Road) which divided close to the southern boundary and a natural water course from the Lachlan swamps (Bunnerong Road and Coogee Road), a road following the western boundary of the Water Reserve, which was planted with a

row of Stone Pines (*Pinus pinea*), and connecting with Randwick Road then continuing through to Botany via Waterloo and an access road from the west into the walled cemetery. Minor roads and paths were formed about the Military Barracks and off the Old South Head Road alignment.

The Randwick Road followed a well beaten path meandering through the sandy and swampy low ground to destinations at Bunnerong, Botany Bay, Randwick, Coogee or the Randwick Racecourse. The area also contained many bush tracks created by timber getters travelling to the coastal sandstone country to the east as well as shooters, fishermen and graziers.

An early occupation on the Botany Sands was that of market gardeners. The road to Coogee and Randwick was originally formed by market gardeners resident in Randwick and working the Botany Sands but it was not until 1850 that the government proclaimed a new road from Botany Road to Coogee. In order to maintain the road Trusts were established and appointed in 1854 and tolls instigated with the first Toll house built and opened on 1 January 1855 close to the extant toll house structure below Mount Rennie. This toll house was replaced by a stone structure nearby and is extant and now part of the Moore Park Golf Course grounds. A second and more substantial stone cottage built as a toll house located adjacent to the toll bar was erected at the Coogee Road junction with Old Botany Road in 1869. This was erected largely to capture the market visiting Randwick Racecourse. This site is now the Tay Reserve, a triangular piece of land wedged between what is now the alignments of Anzac Parade and Alison Road. Tolls remained in place until 1894. Later the Toll Bar Reserve was considered as a possible memorial site to commemorate local soldier's sacrifice in the Great War and as part of the grand vision for an Anzac Parade from Moore Park to the La Perouse Monument at Botany Bay.

At the fork leading to Coogee/ Randwick or Botany a timber bridge spanned the Lachlan Swamps water course. This area was often subjected to flooding and made access difficult and a common source of complaint by users.

The marine environments of Coogee and Botany were associated with pleasure, and, Randwick with sport. For many, in the early history of the colony, a horse ride to La Perouse or Coogee was a favourite jaunt of those seeking the pleasure of the open air and the then rural character of the Botany Sands, despite isolated industrial activity.

La Perouse had the added association of the discovery of the east coast of Australia and the site of the French encampment. This eventually gave rise to the development at Botany of the Sir Joseph Banks Hotel and pleasure grounds complete with private zoo in 1852. This became a popular weekend destination for the residents of Sydney. The ride to the pleasure grounds had been compared to passing through an Arabian desert. (Majoribanks)



Land to the west of the Common (now Surry Hills and Redfern) was cleared of timber as the presence of clay soils provided a more sustainable pasture for agricultural and grazing pursuits. Timber was in short supply and the Common was often the subject of indiscriminate pillaging of whatever trees that grew in the area.

With the gradual removal of the shrubs and trees, strong southerly winds caused the movement of sand towards Sydney from the 1840s until the 1860s when grassing was introduced as a successful form of revegetation to stop the shifting sands.

Local residents, including Charles Moore (the alderman) and Simon Pearce (the Baliff) were most vocal about the sense of environmental degradation and they called for the removal of animals and the replanting of areas with indigenous shrubs. This sparked a debate over the use of suitable plant species. Pearce was committed to the task of pasturing the Sydney Common as quickly as possible and carried out the planting of a vast number of shrubs.

Charles Moore, the Director of the Sydney Botanic Gardens (no relation to Charles Moore, the alderman) advised on the planting of couch grass and a limited range of indigenous shrubs. Pearce rejected Moore's advice, however most of the shrub planting died and on replanting with grass the couch species flourished. The street sweepings of the City were used as manure to ensure successful growth in the nutrient depleted sands.

A Sand Hills Bill kept animals away from the Common and the area generally retained a wild informal landscape character until 1872. Unauthorised dumping of rubbish in the Common, thinly covered with undergrowth, accentuated the perception of the landscape as "unsightly". The use of a grassed surface led to a change in landscape character from scrubby wasteland to useable open space.

Detailed planting work along roads was undertaken as a result of both the Charles Moores' intervention with the area proposed as a public park. Charles Moore (the alderman and Mayor) took a leading role in urging the Council to undertake improvement works in the Sydney Common whilst the other Charles Moore provided horticultural advice and plants.

In 1866 a new boundary dividing the Water Reserve from the remainder of the Common was determined by survey (J. Armstrong 1866).

The new boundary followed the ridges and summits of a low range of sand hills describing the western boundary of the water catchment of the Reserve. This boundary served as the eastern boundary of the newly named Moore Park in 1867 and was fenced off from the Water Reserve by a split hardwood paling fence.

During March and April 1867 a considerable number of men were employed in levelling a portion of the ground in preparation for the planting of ornamental trees and the laying out of recreation grounds.

The City Council also resolved that:

..." a part of the plan is to open a road across the Rifle Range to connect with the eastern end of Fitzroy Street with the Municipality of Paddington and form a junction with the South Head Road near St. Matthias Church. A large number of foot passengers are continually passing to and fro between Surry Hills and Paddington by the footpath at the back of the Victoria Barracks everyday, and the new road will be available for vehicles as well as foot passengers." (SMH.23 April 1867, p.6)

This roadway later became known as Moore Park Road.

The work on the Common was instigated by the Council's Improvement Committee. At its meeting on the 29 April 1867, a report was received from the Improvement Committee in which the Committee recommended that the land hitherto known as the Sydney Common be designated 'Moore Park'. At the same meeting it was resolved to recommend the sale of 29 allotments of land on the Sydney Common between Elizabeth Street and the Roman Catholic Church ground, South Head Road, to fund the cost of improvements. Also a sum of 100 pounds was voted for turfing the ground as soon as fenced.

The initial plantations were made as a double row avenue along a much straightened yet gently curving Randwick Road from DriversTriangle to the point at which the Cleveland Street extension would later intersect with Randwick Road. Cleveland Street was not extended until 1879.

Single row plantings were made along the Fitzroy Street frontage and along South Dowling Street. The upper slopes of Mt Rennie and Mt Steel were terraced and the lower slopes planted with predominantly Moreton Bay Fig trees. At the entrance to the park from Drivers Triangle, on Randwick Road, a sandstone gateway consisting of a group of three ornate columns linked by a dwarf sandstone panel and turnstiles located on either side of the road. A dwarf sandstone wall and iron pallisade fencing ran around the park periphery along Fitzroy Street and a timber split three rail fence ran along the South Dowling Street boundary. Elsewhere the fences were split paling as well as the same forming tree guards to individual tree plantings or arris rail park fences painted white.

The plantings consisted of Norfolk Island Pines (*Araucaria heterophylla*) next to the road then a line of alternating Moreton Bay Figs (*Ficus macrophylla*) and Monterey Pines (*Pinus radiata*). The outer row of Figs and Pines were carried around the northern and western peripheries of the park. The choice of these

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species may well have been made by Charles Moore, the Director of the Sydney Botanic Gardens or his staff. This is uncertain, however, Moore often advised Councils on the use of appropriate plant species for public places and these species were amongst his most favoured. These same species were used in the Sydney Domain and Hyde Park under the influence of James Kidd.

Another influence may have been the presence of John Baptist's plant nursery which was established nearby in Surry Hills in 1837. Baptist was a major supplier of plants in Sydney and particularly advanced specimens of Norfolk Island Pines. The nursery occupied 36 acres and had frontages to both the Cemetery Road (now Crescent Street) and Bourke Street and was known locally as Baptist's Gardens. The nursery was conspicuous due to its mature Norfolk Island Pines dominating the landscape of Surry Hills.

The park was officially opened on 9 September 1868 when Charles Moore personally planted a row of 16 Moreton Bay Figs. Moore had perceived the Common as dreary, wild and uncultivated sand hills. The "cultivation" of the Common also had its critics:

..."the Sydney Common before it was touched, had every natural advantage, beautiful gentle rises and hollows, magnificent ponds of fresh water...But what has been done! Hills have been levelled. Hollows and ponds filled up. All that variety of surface which was such an advantage destroyed and many thousands of cubic yards of sand moved that ought never to have been touched at all." (P. Derriman, *The Grand Old Ground. A history of the Sydney Cricket Ground*, 1981, p.10)

The creation of Moore Park as a concept of "Pleasure Grounds" made the former Common into a popular recreation ground in Sydney and in great demand, particularly as a venue for sports. The Military held annual and special Reviews and Parades, particularly on the Queen's birthday, in the park.

Further work was carried out in the 1870s although the drainage problem of the Lachlan Swamps had been partially relieved by the construction of earthwork dams during 1866-67. Moore Park also contained three major waterbodies and sand hills. These most conspicuous hills were Mt. Steel, Mt Rennie and Constitution Hill.

The hilltops were modified by flattening and terracing c. 1870 together with provision of pathways and flights of steps linking the earlier built structures associated with the toll house at the base of Mt. Rennie including a single storied house with veranda at the intersection of Cleveland Street and South Dowling Street.

By 1879 Cleveland Street was extended through the Park to join Randwick Road adjacent to the Toll house and was aligned to avoid one of the larger waterbodies of the park. The landform depression and pond were previously enclosed by a hardwood paling fence. This fenced area became the Zoological Gardens and in 1881 the Royal Agricultural Society took up ten acres of Moore Park adjacent to the Association Cricket Ground and the Rifle Range.



Plate 9. Moore Park Panorama 1 c.1871 ML





Plate 10. Moore Park Panorama 2 c.1871 ML

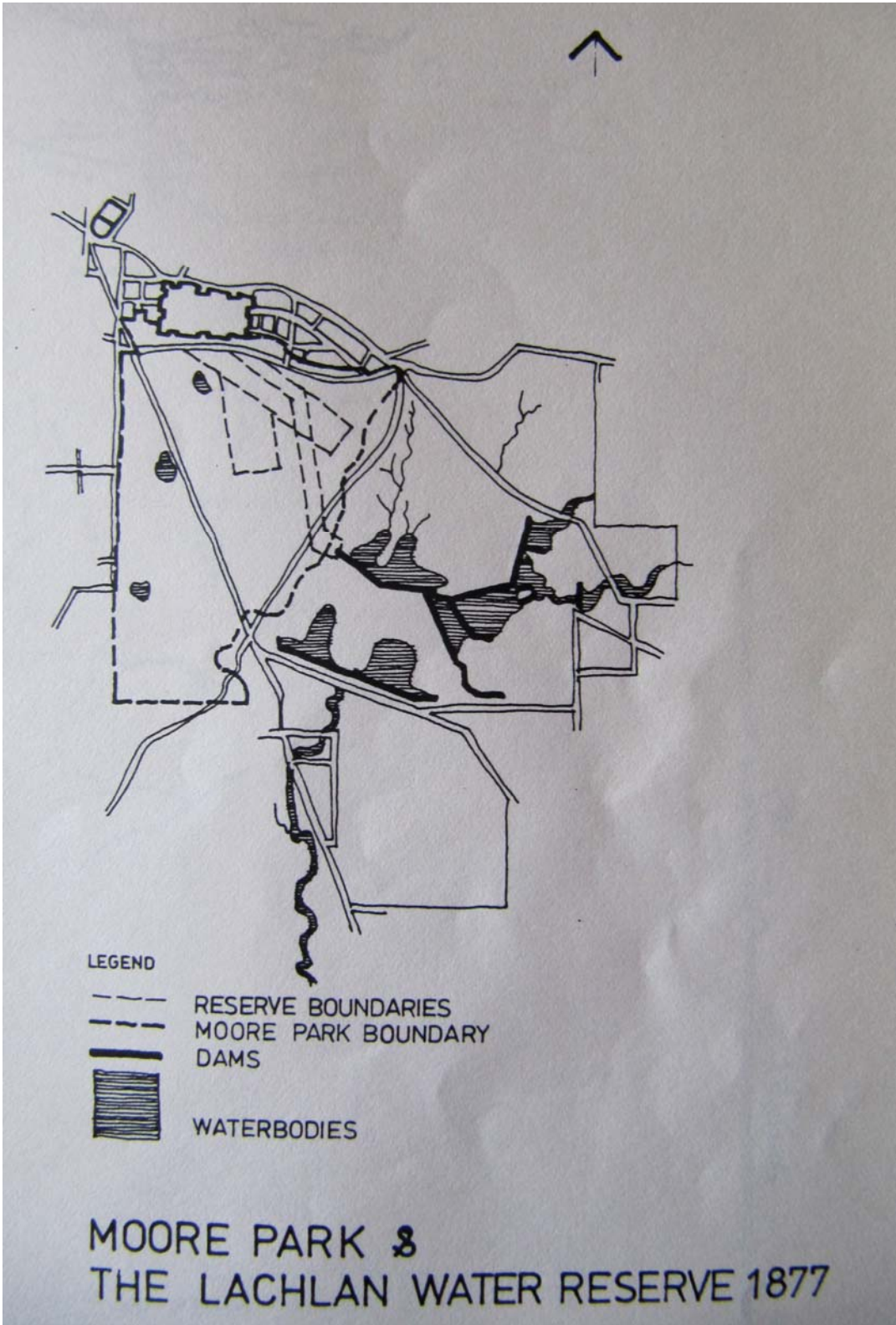


Plate 11. Moore Park Context 1877 (Cabconsulting Pty Ltd)

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Moreton Bay Figs were planted in two rows to form an avenue along the new extension of Cleveland Street utilising a triangulated plan pattern. This design was influenced by the Sydney Botanic Gardens staff as a continuation of a pattern established by James Kidd in the Sydney Domain and adopted by Charles Moore in Hyde Park in the late 1860s. Moore frequently recommended these species, together with Norfolk Island Pines and Monterey Pines for planting in public places, and particularly on the periphery of parks. As had happened elsewhere the Monterey Pines died out after approximately forty years or earlier by competition from the more aggressive figs.

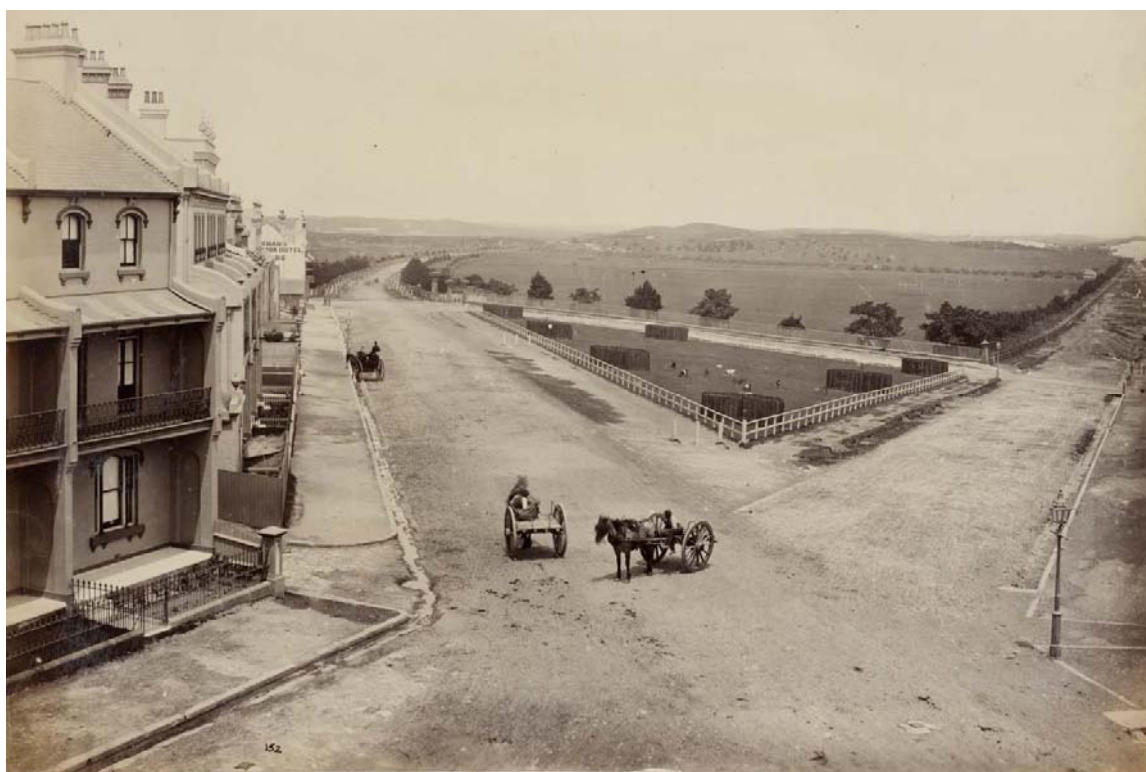


Plate 12. View of Moore Park from Drivers Triangle c.1880

A plantation of fig trees was also made along the park boundary of Moore Park Road. These appear to have been Moreton Bay Figs as only two of those species remain along that alignment.

The competition for places for sport and ground for Military use became serious with the Military and Volunteer Rifle Range operating at the same time as the cricket clubs. In 1875 a Military spokesman complained;

...“we are driven from Moore Park by football players in winter and cricketers in summer.” (ibid p.13.)

In 1878 the old Military Cricket Ground became the NSW Cricket Association Ground. A new pavilion was constructed and the 12 acres of ground was enclosed by a nine foot high paling fence with a plantation of shade trees (*Pinus radiata*) throughout the enclosed circle of ground. Two entrances were made

directly off Randwick Road, one for vehicles and one for pedestrians. Both converged at the same northern entrance gate into the grounds. An additional vehicular road was constructed as a loop off Randwick Road and soon became the line of a steam tramway. The loop was necessary as a small sand hill was in the way. It was later named Mount Lang.

The association of the Park with sporting events was established early. The Military had staged the “Garrison Races” each year on the Ground until 1867 as well as cricket and athletics. The NSW Cricket Association continued this tradition in providing for bowling, lawn tennis, quoits, hand ball, athletics and football in addition to its primary use for cricket.

In the 1870s Moore Park was largely cleared and grassed with the exception of the remnant indigenous Open Scrub vegetation formation on the hills forming the eastern boundary, the enclosed plantations and waterholes.

Two commemorative drinking fountains dated 1869 and 1870 are located in the Park. Both are inscribed; “Walter Renny Mayor” and are similar to other fountains located in the inner metropolitan area of Sydney. It is not known if these were originally sited at their present location or moved from other sites. One fountain located at the northern entrance appears in photographic evidence c. 1870.

In 1879 the Zoological Society Gardens were located in Moore Park around the waterhole and land depression formed by the junction of Cleveland Street and Randwick Road. The grounds were laid out by the Director of the Sydney Botanic Gardens, Charles Moore who was also a member of the Society. The natural depression in the ground was suitable for containing animals. The waterhole was converted into an ornamental pond with a fountain in the middle and planted with Willow trees (*Salix babylonica*) around the edge as well as mass planted garden beds displaying foliage plants. A pseudo grotto and rockery structure acted as a shelter and other buildings included: a circular bear pit, elephant house and several free standing cottages. The whole of the triangular plan shaped grounds were planted with alternating Monterey Pines and Century plants (*Agave americana*) inside the line of the previously established paling fence. These gardens added to the new focus of recreation and leisure at Moore Park.

Charles Moore (Sydney Botanic Gardens) was also elected as a Council member of the Agricultural Society of NSW in 1880 and in 1881 moved its Showground location from Prince Alfred Park to grounds adjacent to the Association Cricket Ground. Access was gained by connecting a road off Randwick Road. This alignment is now known as MacArthur Avenue. This served as the official entrance to the Society’s grounds and a tram loop provided public transport.

An extension of the tramline from Moore Park to Randwick was completed by the end of 1880 and the Showground’s first exhibition was held in 1882.



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The Showgrounds had a common boundary with the Cricket Ground and the Volunteers Rifle Range. Shade trees comprising Moreton Bay Figs and Monterey Pines were planted along these boundaries, presumably to define territory and to screen competing activities. From this original configuration of ten acres the Showground expanded to occupy a large part of Moore Park. Significant expanses occurred in 1886, 1901, 1917, 1928 and 1951 until its relocation to Homebush.



Plate 13. Detail of Survey of Lachlan Swamps 1884



Plate 14. Zoological Society Gardens Moore Park



Plate 15. Zoological Gardens Moore Park. Central Pond



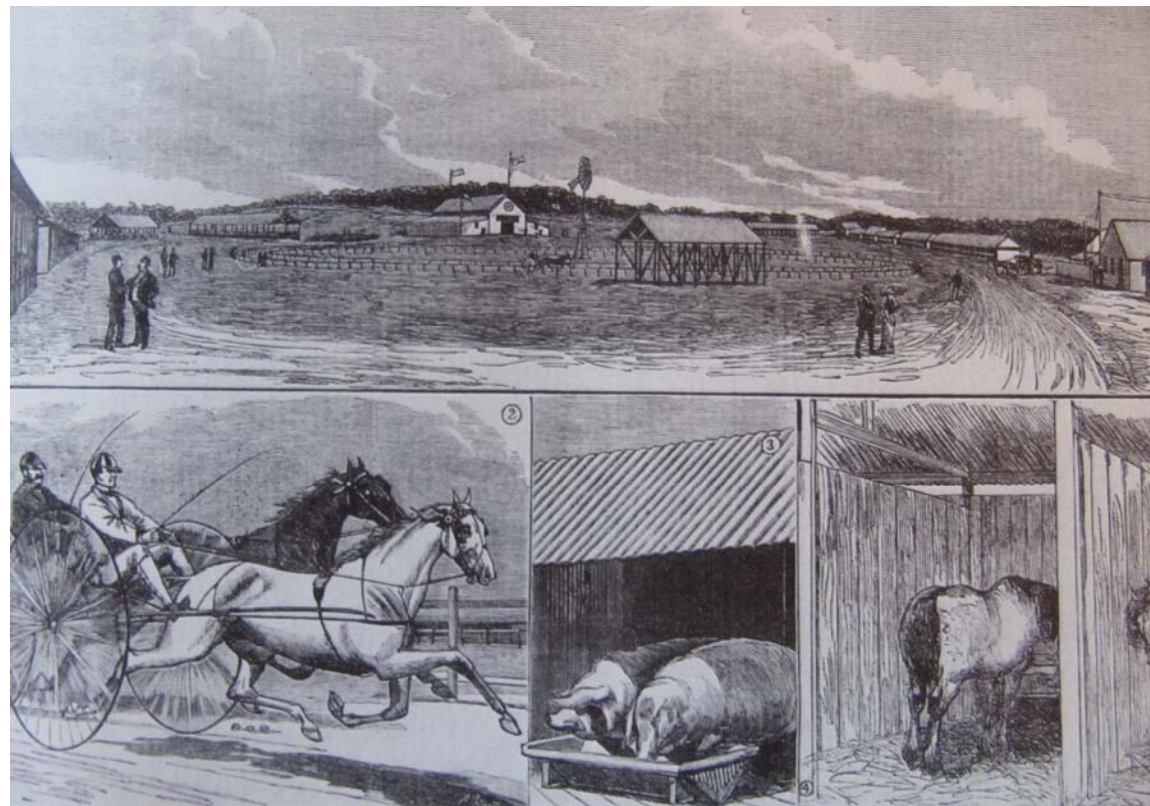


Plate 16. Showground in Moore Park 1882.

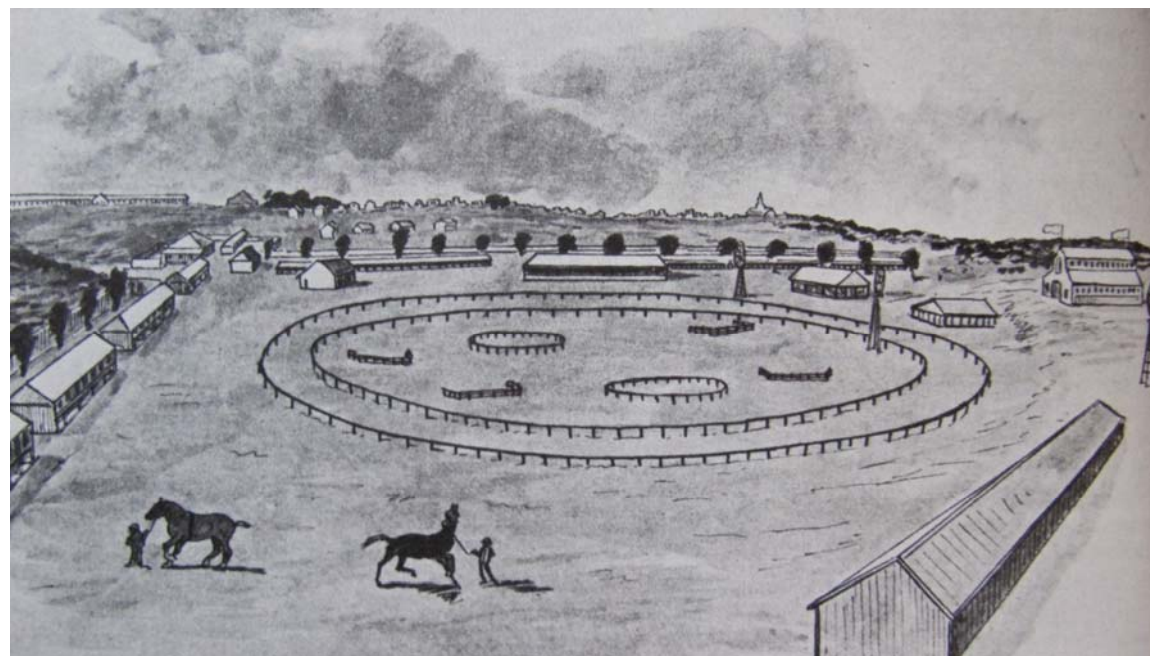


Plate 17. Centre Show Ring Moore Park 1882.



Plate 18. View north from slopes of Mt Steel overlooking part of Zoological Society Gardens (undated).

The tramline to Randwick ran on the eastern side of the Moreton Bay Figs of the Randwick Road plantation and continued along the top of the embankments of the Kensington ponds of the Water Reserve passing a site for the tramway workshops before climbing the hill to Randwick Junction. The tramway workshops site was another alienation of the Sydney Common. This line also served the Randwick Racecourse and from Moore Park to King Street, Randwick a double row of Lombardy poplars (*Populus nigra* 'Italica') were planted at the base of the embankment.

The rapid development of organised sport in the latter half of the 19th Century was expressed in Moore Park in the 1880s. Australian Rules Football and English Association Football was played in 1880. During the 1880s all three codes were played in Moore Park. The Park was also the location of the Carrington Track, an important venue for professional foot – racing. The course of the Australian Golf Club was established in 1882.

In 1886, sixty five percent of the population of metropolitan Sydney was living within a five mile radius of the Sydney Cricket Ground. From the late 1870s the Councils of Woollahra and Paddington were lobbying for use of the Water Reserve as a public park, and this was a favoured use by many people when it



ended its usefulness as a water supply in 1886. A ride and drive park had been created in 1879 at the National Park, Audley. Although named after Lady Carrington, the Governor Lord Carrington suggested the idea of having a more suburban location investigated. The sites suggested in 1886 were: the Sydney Domain or the Old Cemetery Reserve at the back of Mt. Rennie in Moore Park. Both were rejected in favour of a more grand vision of a larger park at the Lachlan Swamps. This new park would not only provide a suburban drive but a focus for the Centenary celebrations in 1888 and commemoratively called Centennial Park.

Part of the visions for Centennial Park were the creation of grand avenues to link it with the fabric of the city. The only one to eventuate was the extension of the ride and drive concept resulting in the Grand Drive cutting across Moore Park to meet the intersection of Randwick Road and Cleveland Street and its entrance known as the 'Cleveland Gates'.

A description was contained in an article in the SMH 26 January 1888:  
“The principle approach was to be nearly opposite the Zoological Gardens. The grand avenue was to be 80 foot wide on one side, with an equestrian path 26 foot wide on the other side. These were to be supported with two plantations each 6 foot wide, with a path 12 foot wide for foot passengers in the centre. The total area of the land forming the promenade was to be 22 acres.” (SMH Centenary Supplement p.122)

This was to be the main ceremonial entry into Centennial Park. This portion of the Grand Drive was constructed by the contractor Mr John Young in October 1887 as a separate contract to that within the Centennial Park boundaries. A dwarf sandstone wall and iron palisade fence was constructed along the southern extent of the Grand Drive in Moore Park.

The planting design was supervised by Charles Moore (Director Sydney Botanic Gardens) and influenced by the Overseer James Jones. It employed alternating species with a strong rhythm responding to the intended scale and grandeur of the Park. The species included Norfolk Island Pines, Moreton Bay Figs, Monterey Pines, Elms and Poplars. The pines and deciduous trees suffered and many were killed by drought conditions in the 1890s. These were replaced in 1896 by Port Jackson Figs (*Ficus rubiginosa*) and Holm Oaks (*Quercus ilex*) due to the efforts of Joseph Henry Maiden, who replaced Charles Moore as Director of the Sydney Botanic Gardens in 1896.

The concept behind the design of Centennial Park was the subdivision of land on the high ground surrounding the Grand Drive and the allocation of the highest ground for a memorial hall or State House to commemorate European settlement in Australia. The concept of the State House captivated the mind of the then Premier, Sir Henry Parkes. The subdivision of land facing the designed park was intended for;

...”elegant mansions with gardens and railings in front.” ( ibid)  
The sale of the building frontages were intended to fund the park. The western allotments were to face both Centennial Park and Moore Park. The intended subdivision did not proceed as designed and several plans were prepared before arriving at a final boundary between the two parks. More of Moore Park was consumed by the area of lands to be subdivided. The subdivided lands were not built on until 1904.

The alignment of Cook Road, as a crooked one, was generated by the eastern boundary of the Agricultural Society’s expanded grounds of 1886. A later expansion of these grounds in 1917 resulted in a new relationship with the residential development fronting Cook Road.



Plate 18. Boundary of Centennial Park and Moore Park c.1890



In 1888 further commemorations were made in Moore Park but on a smaller scale. The water body adjacent to the Cricket Ground was recognised as Lake Kippax (named after a City Council alderman) and a drinking fountain, designed in the Free Classical Style, located to the south of the lake, north of Gregory Avenue and close to the tramline. The structure commemorates William Kippax (alderman 1863 – 1889) as well as the Mayor, John Harris (1888 – 1889). The Dunmore Lang Memorial Fountain was also erected in 1888 on the top of Mt Lang, opposite the Sydney Cricket Ground. Both Mt Lang and the sandstone memorial have been removed. A similar fate befell the cast iron Macfarlane Ornamental Canopy fountains located at the pillar entrance to the park, at the junction of Cleveland Street and South Dowling Street as well as on the summits of Mt Rennie and Mt Steel.

Lake Kippax had trees planted around its periphery as indicated on an 1888 map. Moreton Bay Figs appear to have survived on the northern edge of the lake. Photographic evidence of 1901 indicates a few trees to the north and no planting to the south. The southern plants may have been a different species and may have died out in the drought years of the 1890s. Many tree species either died or were removed, with the Norfolk Island Pines being one of the most affected species. This happened throughout all Sydney parks at the time.

Deaths of Monterey Pines in the Randwick Road plantations were replaced by Port Jackson Figs as recommended by J.H.Maiden. The plantation on the east side of Randwick Road, and south of Grand Drive and the Cleveland Street intersection contain both species of fig however it is dominated by Port Jackson Figs. The plantation was continued along Bunnerong Road to the extent of the former Sydney Common boundary. Drivers Triangle, in the north, was also planted with Port Jackson Figs.

The resultant formation of plantations along Moore Park Road, Randwick Road and Cleveland Street are a mixture of the two species of fig. The figs were a tried and tested species and they had gained much respect for their ability to survive droughts. The practise of replacing failed trees with Port Jackson Figs has continued up to the present. This is apart from new Moreton Bay Figs planted in the late twentieth century as a row to the east of the remnant 1860s figs in what is now Anzac Parade.

By 1890 the tramway lines had extended along Cleveland Street and additional turning loops located in the area to the west of the Cricket and Agricultural Society's grounds. Randwick Road had a timber arris park rail fence constructed between the carriageway and the Norfolk Island Pines.

On the release of the Rifle Range in the 1890s the land along Moore Park Road became available. It had been used for sporting activities of cricket and football on an informal basis. The Military retained a portion and yet another portion was

subdivided for housing (that area north of the Rifle Range boundary now marked by Poate Road) whilst the remainder became the no.2 oval for the Sydney Cricket Ground and the Sydney Sports Ground.

A new road linked all of the sporting and Showground developments and connected with Lang road to provide a network of roads to support the developed lands of Moore Park. The new road was called Driver Avenue and its name commemorates Richard Driver, a solicitor to the City Council who was instrumental in gaining control of the Military Cricket Ground for the NSW Cricket Association.



Plate 19. Randwick Road and Grand Drive intersection showing line of Norfolk Island Pines. 1901

In 1903 a design competition was held for a memorial fountain and according to a bequest by Mrs S. L.Comrie of Northfield, Kurrajong Heights it was to be known as the Comrie Memorial Fountain to serve both man and beast. The selected design was intended to be placed in Queens Square where it was erected in 1904. The design and construction was carried out by Messrs Loveridge and Hudson.



A2 - Heritage Analysis

In 1934 due to the restructuring of Hyde Park, the Comrie Memorial Fountain was relocated to Driver Avenue, Moore Park. This fountain was erected outside the Sportsground and was integrated into a triangular traffic island. The structure was constructed out of Bowral trachyte with attached columns made from polished Gabo Island granite and fitted with two electric incandescent lamps. The symmetrical design was complemented with the planting of four Holm Oaks as a backdrop. The kerbing and guttering of the island was also constructed of trachyte. The fountain was demolished in 1995, stored and reconstructed within the former Grand Drive (now Federation Way) in 2010 opposite the Robertson Road gates into Centennial Park.

This fountain is one of many commemorative objects which have moved around different sites within Moore Park.

In 1908 the Sydney City Council resolved to erect a bandstand on the western side of the Randwick Road near the Fitzroy Street corner with South Dowling Street.

In 1909 the Toll house at the corner of Randwick road and Bunnerong Road was demolished within the area known as Tay Reserve.

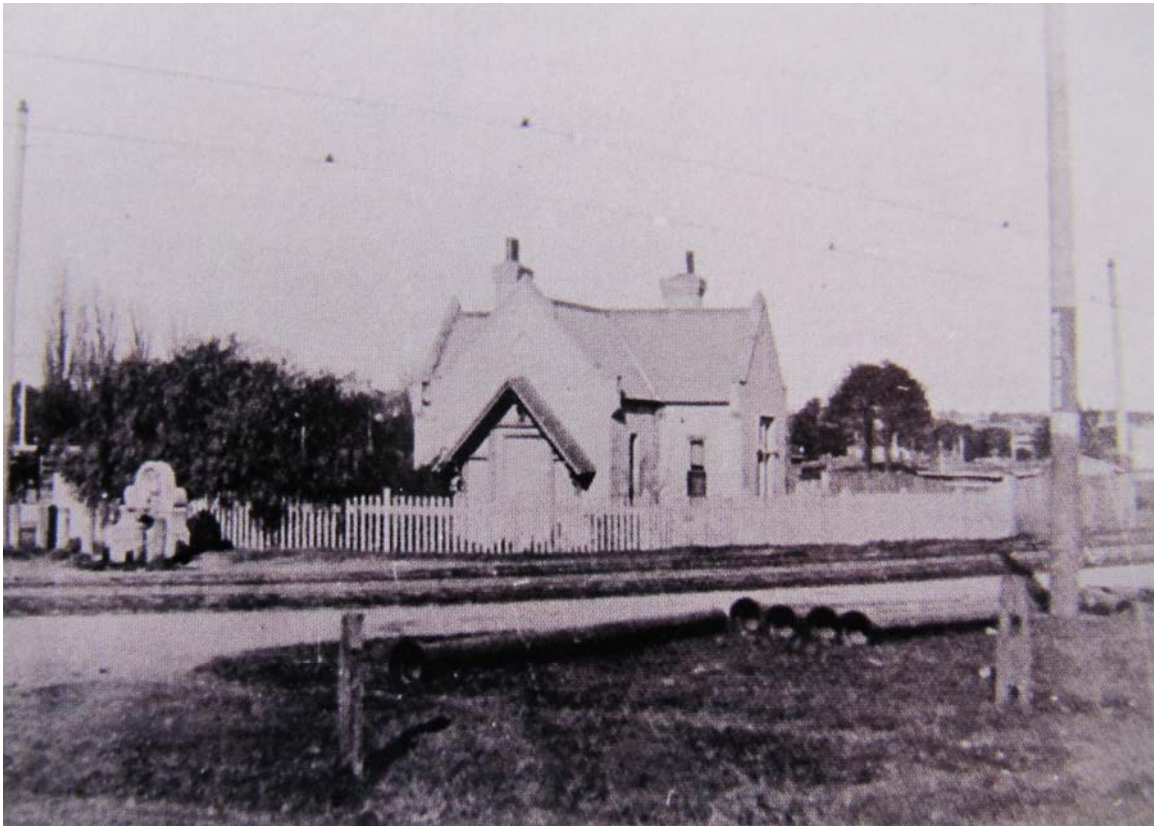


Plate 20. Toll House Cottage and fountain.

Also in 1909, fifty trees were sent from the Sydney Botanic Gardens for planting in Moore Park. These may well have been the double row of Canary Island Palms (*Phoenix canariensis*) defining MacArthur Avenue and Gregory Avenue. Maiden, had experimented with these species by planting them in Centennial Park in the previous year, and it was his intention to plant palms as widely as possible throughout Sydney to create a tropical image. A number of these trees experienced dieback in the late twentieth century when subject to Fusarium wilt. Because of the growing impact of motor vehicles the roads were provided with rounded and deeply set stone kerbs designed by Maiden for use in public domains as well as painted timber arris rail fences. Footpaths were provided in the centre of each palm avenue.

Maiden had also added a curving avenue of Port Jackson Figs around the south western edge of Lake Kippax. The foreshore of the lake was edged in sandstone and it received a lot of use by both the local residents and the Military. Dogs were washed in the water and miniature yachts were sailed on the water. The Military engineers continued to use the lake to test the construction of temporary bridges.

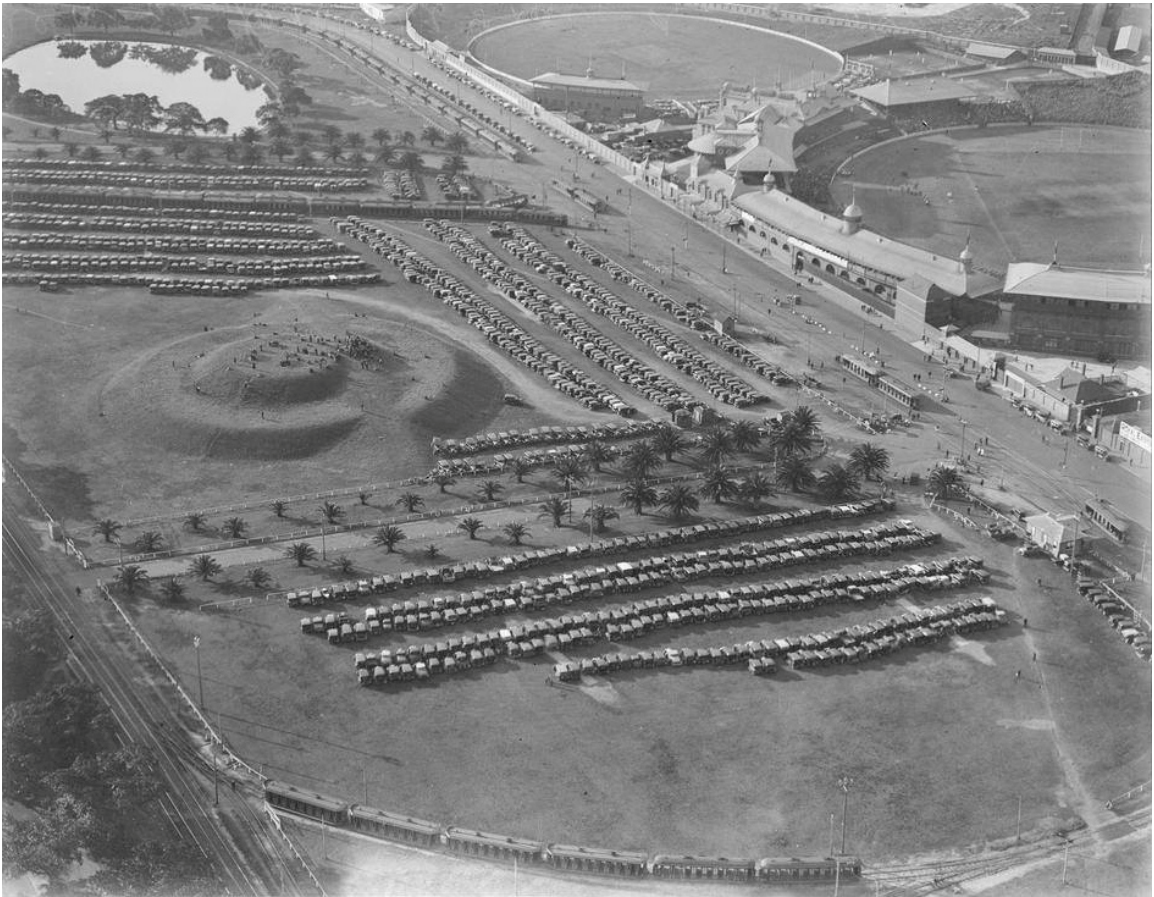


Plate 21. 1930s Aerial view of terraced Mt. Lang and the palm avenues of MacArthur Avenue and Gregory Avenue with Lake Kippax and Fig tree plantings and tram loop and vehicular parking evident.



## A2 - Heritage Analysis

In 1917 Randwick Road was widened, the Norfolk Island Pines removed and a centre planting bed constructed for horticultural display, an obelisk erected, the original Moore Park gates relocated and its name changed to Anzac Parade. The entire length of new road alignment was kerbed and guttered with Maiden's sandstone kerb detail and pedestrian pathways made on either side. Anzac Parade was opened on the 15<sup>th</sup> March 1917 by the Lady Mayoress, Mrs R.D. Meagher. A.H. Brigg, the City Surveyor was responsible for the road layout whilst the City architect, R.H. Broderick was responsible for the design of the obelisk. In 1922 trays were added to the obelisk for flowers and in 1923 additional bands for flowers and wreaths included. Phoenix canariensis palms were planted along the central road median of both Anzac Parade and Moore Park Road.



Plate 22. Anzac Parade and Obelisk c.1922 ML.

In the post World War II years Lombardy poplars were added adjacent to the carriageway (c.1948) and to some extent formed a commemorative avenue as well as a memory of the upright form of the earlier Norfolk Island Pine row plantings. The poplars were not as visually powerful as the more mature rows of fig trees.

Another Great War commemoration was another drinking fountain located on the north side corner of Cleveland Street and South Dowling Street and diagonally opposite the Bat and Ball Hotel. This fountain was erected by the members of the Moore Park Cricket Association in memory of their comrades who fell in the Great War 1914 - 18.

Another wartime activity was the removal of the Zoological Society Gardens to Taronga in Mosman from 1916. The site was replaced by Sydney Girl's High School between 1919 and 1921 and was later joined with Sydney Boy's High School opening in 1928. The Boy's School was designed with an imposing façade overlooking the seemingly vast open space of grassed playing fields of the Park.

The Girl's School was built into the corner of Cleveland Street and Anzac Parade and its boundaries were planted with a row of Canary Island Palms which, due to Maiden's influence, had become quite fashionable. A variety of other plants were used in the grounds however some of the earlier plantings of the Zoological Society's Gardens have remained together with some of the old zoo structures such as the Bear Pit.

Significant plantings made in the 1920s were along Driver Avenue, portions of Lang Road and Robertson Road. These were almost exclusively Hill's Figs (*Ficus hillii*) and these species have continued to be used to the present.

In 1926 the Moore Park Golf Club was constructed on top of Mt. Rennie and the former toll house gained two wings for conversion to utilitarian functions for the golf course. Golf had been played informally on the area since 1913. A formal terrace and putting green were added in the post war years as was the conspicuous plantation of Canary Island Palms.

Another addition to the Park and below the Golf Club was the Bowling Club in 1944 which fronted Cleveland Street. Unfortunately the Clubhouse and greens eliminated part of the outside row of Moreton Bay figs along the southern edge of Cleveland Street. Replacement planting consisted of alternating conifers and oleanders. This considerably weakened the strength of the simple landscape design of this portion of the Park and visually obscured the lower slopes of Mt Rennie and Mt Steel.

The Lawn Bowling Club remained on the site until 1998 and then was adapted as tennis courts until 2001.

The view from the Golf Club to the south west would have included an amount of building development in that corner of the Park which also contained a meandering track later to be formalised as Dacey Avenue. This area was the site of the Moore Park Coal Bore which had been initiated in the 1890s and may have extracted some gases for wartime use but no coal. Associated with this site was the "Perfectus" Refuse Destructor and Disinfector which was erected in 1901 and in operation by 1902. This unit was to have been replaced by an incinerator as designed by Walter Burley Griffin in the 1930s however it was resited at Pymont and adapted to a different topography in 1935.



## A2 - Heritage Analysis

To the north of this corner and off South Dowling Street was the site of the King Edward VII Home for Dogs. This remained until the 1950s. The legacy of these uses of these sites are the two rows of palm trees; one of canary Island Palms and the other of Mexican Cotton Palms (*Washingtonia robusta*). These remained as landmarks within the streetscape of South Dowling Street.



Plate 23. View of SW corner Moore Park and “Perfectus” Refuse Destructor c.1939 ML.

In December 1932 the first of school age supervised playgrounds was established in Moore Park by the City Council as a result of a report by the Parks and Playgrounds Movement on the present and future requirements of the parks and playgrounds in the Sydney Metropolitan district. The site was that of the Frank H. Saywell Kindergarten at the northernmost corner of the Park, opposite Drivers Triangle. Land was filled to gain level areas and new stone and concrete retaining walls built together with buildings. Former stone gateposts were relocated to form points of entry from Moore Park Road and South Dowling Street. These elements were modified to accommodate the Kindergarten and new indoor sports building.

By 1938 Dacey Avenue had been constructed across the southern section of Moore Park. This new alignment created a division of the park into areas which became increasingly inaccessible due to the rise in motor vehicle traffic. Photographic evidence of views dating to the 1930s indicate a row plantation of Norfolk Island Pines along the Park side of South Dowling Street, south of the Cleveland Street intersection. Subsequent road widening has eliminated these trees, the planting of which, appears to date from the 1880s. A similar fate befell the figs along the northern section of South Dowling Street.



Plate 24. South Dowling Street 1937 (Sam Hood image)





Plate 25. Aerial view 1930s. ML.

In the inter war period the Showground expanded significantly and Plate 26 illustrates the extent by 1935 of a brick walled entity now occupying part of the former Rifle Range Reserve and extending up to Moore Park Road. It almost resembled a medieval walled village with its urban character in direct contrast to the grassy expanses of the rest of Moore Park.



Plate 26. Showgrounds Plan 1935



Plate 27. Sydney Showground Central Parade Ring

The Sequicentenary in 1938 provided a focus for the design and implementation of new grand pavilions at the Showground namely the Manufacturers Hall and the Commemorative Pavilion and the Show became part of the celebrations of the Sequicentenary.

In 1936 the Sydney Athletics Field in Moore Park south and dating from 1906 was renamed the E.S.Marks Field and many associated buildings constructed and a cinder track completed in 1947. The naming of the facility commemorates E.S. Marks a former Major of Sydney in 1930 who supported athletics as a sport.

In 1941 the Jessie Stuart Broomfield Memorial Dog Trough and Fountain was erected by the Municipal Council of Sydney near to the northern corner of Driver Avenue and MacArthur Avenue. The design is symmetrical, small in scale and built of brick.

Since the 1960s a considerable amount of planting has been added to the Park, particularly through the efforts of the Golf Club and the Sydney City Council. In 1967 another commemorative fountain and sculpture was erected in the centre of Lake Kippax. The fountain and sculpture was designed by Diana Hunt and it attempts to recognise the achievements of Australian sportswomen. At the same time the edging to the lake was redesigned to incorporate an indented stone and concrete edge, partially paved and planted with clumps of Canna with regularly spaced Peppercorn Trees (*Schinus aiera*).

The playing fields to the east of Anzac Parade were planted with Broad – leaved paperbarks (*Melaleuca quinquenervia*) and Plum Pine (*Podocarpus elatus*) to the



periphery of the open grassed areas. In the 1970s the South Dowling Street alignment was widened on the Park side and was retained with a low sandstone wall, and in places, a concrete crib block wall and a plantation of mixed native, but not indigenous, plants and exotic plants. Other plants used were Lombardy Poplars, Kaffir Plum (*Harpephyllum caffrum*) and along Dacey Avenue, English Oaks (*Quercus robur*) were planted in a row interplanted with Norfolk Island Hibiscus (*Lagunaria patersonii*) and Hill's Figs. Further planting has included groves and rows of Ginkgo trees (*Ginkgo biloba*) which has created a varied landscape character.

In 1982 Council resolved to plant areas of Moore Park using the concept of Urban Forestry, following a Local Environment Study and Exhibition of a Draft Plan of Management (1984- 5). These areas consisted of forest trees (*Eucalyptus* species) planted at approximately 20 metre centres in grassed areas below Mt Steel. They have not prevailed to any significant extent. In the late 1980s various landscape approaches such as mounding and mass planting was carried out in order to ameliorate the impact of traffic in relation to sports areas throughout Moore Park.

In 1990 Moore Park came under the care and management of the Centennial Park and Moore Park Trust. In 1998 the Royal Agricultural Society moved its Showground to Homebush Bay and the facilities utilised by Fox Studios and an entertainment precinct now known as the Entertainment Quarter was established. Also in the same year the Equestrian Centre facilities were refurbished by the CPMPT.

In 1998 – 9 South Dowling Street was widened and Anzac Parade modified to accommodate the Eastern Suburbs Distributor road infrastructure. Further Fig tree plantings were made as a row along the east side of the bus lane parallel to Anzac Parade, with another line of Brush Box following the tram loop and an informal plantation adjacent to the Eastern Distributor within the remnant parklands. The Sydney Sports Ground parking area at the junction of Moore Park Road and Driver Avenue was planted with a central and enclosing line of Port Jackson Fig trees and an inner grouping of a mixture of *Eucalyptus* trees and shrubs on a steep embankment.

In 2001 The Grand Drive through Moore Park was renamed Federation Way with the gateway at the Cleveland Street / Anzac Parade intersection reconfigured as an urban plaza named Federation Place designed by Tzannes Architects.



Plate 28. Federation Place, Gateway and Federation Way 2001.(Tzannes Associates)

In 2002 the Moore Park Bus interchange area was completed to the design of Spakman Mossop Michaels Landscape Architects.

In 2004 the 1909 Bandstand Rotunda located to the northern end of the Park was restored by the Trust and in 2006 the Centennial Parklands Trust prepared a Plan of Management.

More recent planting has occurred between the grassed terraced landforms supporting football fields adjacent to Lake Kippax.

In 2009 A Korean War Memorial was opened in Moore Park just north of the restored Bandstand Rotunda following a limited design competition.





Plate 29. Moore Park Bus Interchange. 2002. (Detail Six Maps) This included the row plantings and toilet facilities based around Macarthur Drive and new plantings on the Gregory Avenue alignment together with the conservation of some of the Hills Figs and the former tram shed building.



Plate 30. Korean War Memorial Moore Park 2009 (Detail Six Maps)



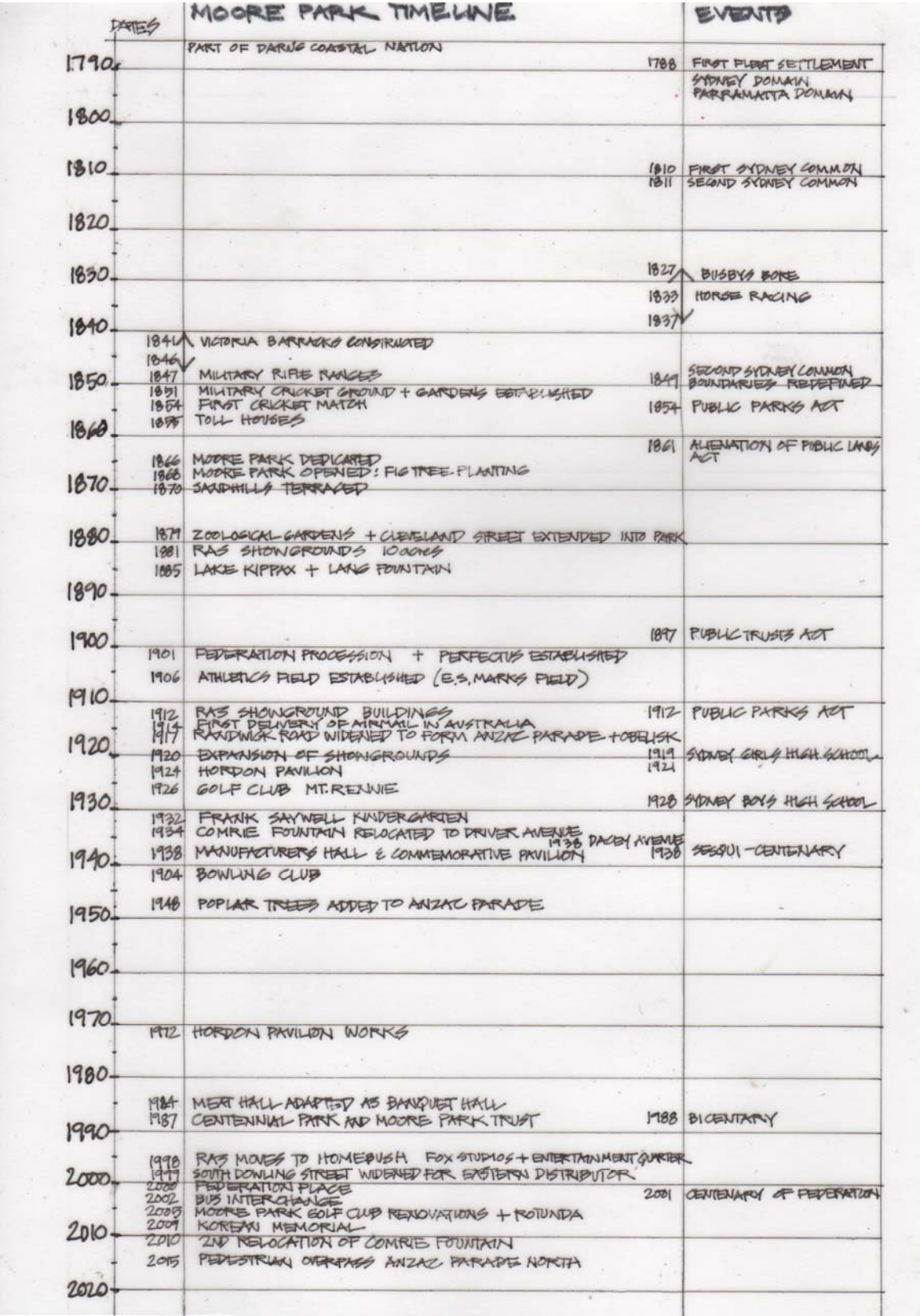


Fig 1. Moore Park Timeline (Cabconsulting Pty Ltd) 2015

3.0 STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Moore Park together with Centennial Park comprise the remnant public open space of the former Sydney Common dedicated by Governor Macquarie in 1811 within the Botany Sands system.

The cultural landscape is a distinctive one created by bold plantations defining public roads and open grassed spaces or walled built spaces utilised for sporting or entertainment activities.

The Park is associated with active sport and leisure developing from early military uses, including parades, training gardening and sport, particularly cricket and football.

The design and layout of the Park are associated with Charles Moore (alderman and Mayor of Sydney), Charles Moore (Director of Sydney Botanic Gardens 1848 – 1896) and Joseph Henry Maiden (Director of Sydney Botanic Gardens 1896 – 1924).

The Park contains a number of commemorative structures, objects and spaces particularly associated with the former Mayors of Sydney City Council, sporting identities and the Great War 1914 – 1918.

The Park contains the home of the Royal Agricultural Society's Showground and its evolution from 1882 to 1997.



### 3.1 HERITAGE STATUS

The study area is contained within two conservation areas:

1. Moore Park Conservation Area
2. RAS Showground Conservation Area

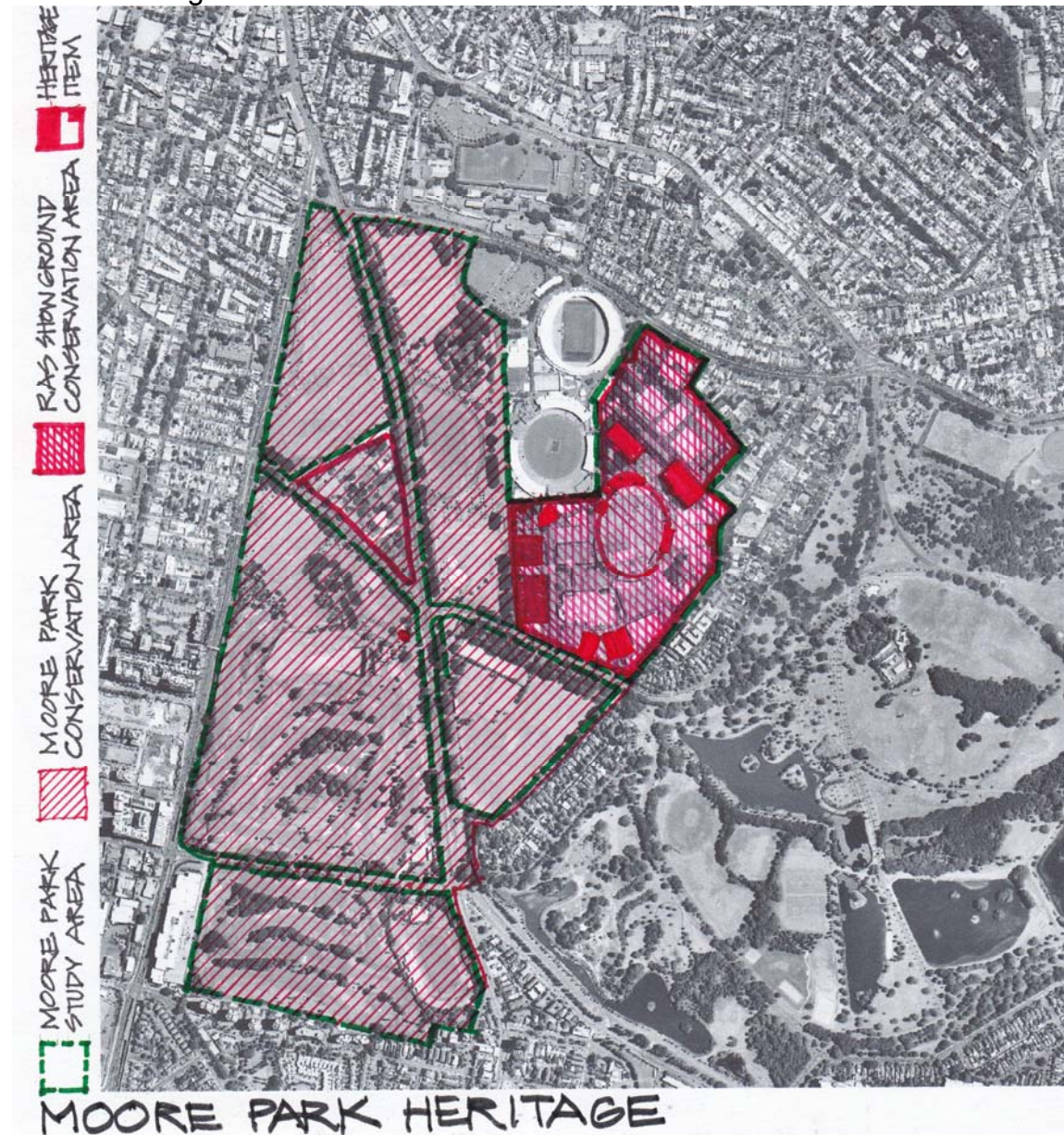


Figure 2. Existing Heritage Areas and Items. (Cabconsulting Pty Ltd 2014)

*Note: The open curtilage of the Moore Park study area is also within the curtilage of the Centennial Parkland's State heritage listing (but not including the former RAS Showground).*

### 4.0 INVENTORY OF SIGNIFICANT AREAS AND ITEMS

#### 1. Moore Park Open Space

Remnant of the Sydney Common and Botany Sands System.

#### 2. Anzac Parade

Former Randwick Road Avenue and row plantation associated with Moore Park opening and commemorates Charles Moore former mayor of Sydney and alderman of Randwick Council. Associated with former directors of Sydney Botanic Gardens; Charles Moore and J. H. Maiden. Moreton Bay Figs were part of original planting 1867-8. Commemorative avenue war memorial from 1917, re-named Anzac Parade and defined by plantings of Moreton Bay Figs, Port Jackson Figs, and Washington Palms in the centre of Anzac Parade and Moore Park Road (now removed). Lombardy Poplars (two of which remain) were planted in the post World War II years c. 1947.

#### 3. Cleveland Street Plantation

Mix of Moreton Bay Figs and Port Jackson Figs as row plantations established in 1879.

#### 4. The Grand Drive

Part of the Grand Drive of Centennial Park located through Moore Park and comprising a structure of tree plantations and stone edged pathways and road edges to differentiate vehicles, horses and pedestrians. Associated with the establishment of Centennial Park and the Federation Swearing –in –ceremony in 1901.

#### 5. Driver Avenue Plantation

Part of an Inter War Plantation of Hill's Figs along the western side of the avenue.

Continuing replacement planting undertaken to conserve this element.

#### 6. Lake Kippax Water body

Associated with original water bodies as part of the exposed water table of the Botany Sands System and their adaptation as aesthetic land components within the Moore park landscape.

#### 7. Lake Kippax Plantation

Mixture of one row of Moreton Bay Figs and two rows of Port Jackson Figs planted around the perimeter of the Lake.

#### 8. Moore Park Road

Remnant row plantation of Moreton Bay Figs (2 trees).



### 9. Gregory Avenue

Canary Island Palm plantations dating from 1909 and associated with the former Director of the Sydney Botanic Gardens, J.H.Maiden.

### 10. Mt Steel and Mt Rennie Landform and Plantations

Created terraced landform still extant. Moreton Bay Fig and Port Jackson Fig tree plantings dating to the 1870s.

### 11. Robertson Road Plantations

Hill's Fig row plantation with additional alternative tree species.

### 12. Mt Rennie

Canary Island Pine plantings associated with the development of the Golf Club.

### 13. Moore Park Gateposts 1867 - 1868

Two sets of sandstone columns originally marking the northern entrance of Randwick Road into Moore Park. These were relocated in 1917 when the road was converted to Anzac Parade and relocated a second time in the late Twentieth century.

### 14. Sandstone Gate Pillars and dwarf wall on Fitzroy Street alignment

Remnant gate way and dwarf sandstone wall of former fencing defining the Park edge 1867 – 8.

### 15. Sandstone Wall and Cast Iron Pallisade Fence

Forms southern boundary to the Grand Drive in Moore Park.

### 16. Sandstone walls to Dacey Avenue

Two sections of freestanding stone walls on either side of Dacey Avenue close to intersection with Anzac Parade.

### 17. Sandstone Kerbs : Anzac Parade, Cleveland Street, Gregory Avenue, MacArthur Avenue, Dacey Avenue, Grand Drive and part Driver Avenue

Associated with detail edging as proposed by J.H.Maiden and City Engineer.

### 18. Drinking Fountain corner Dacey Avenue and Anzac Parade 1869

Commemorative fountain to Walter Renny former Mayor of Sydney. Relocated from corner of Tay Reserve and site of former Toll House cottage.

### 19. Drinking Fountain corner Cleveland Street and Anzac Parade 1870

Commemorative fountain to Walter Renny former Mayor of Sydney.

### 20. Kippax Lake Memorial Drinking Fountain 1888

Commemorative fountain inscribed "John Harris 1889" former Mayor of Sydney

### 21. Fountain corner of Cleveland Street and South Dowling Street

Commemorative fountain for members of Moore Park Cricket Association who fell in the Great War.

### 22. Comrie Memorial Fountain in Grand Parade (Federation Way) at junction with Robertson Road.

Commemorative fountain as a bequest to serve both "man and beast" originally designed and erected in Queens Square Sydney in 1903 then removed to Driver Avenue Moore Park in 1934 and later dismantled in 1995 and stored to be reconstructed at its present location in 2010. Built from Bowral Trachyte and Gabo Island granite it was bequeathed by Sophie Comrie of Kurrajong Heights.

### 23. Lake Kippax Fountain and Sculpture 1967

Designed by Diana Hunt this work commemorates the role of sportswomen.

### 24. The Grand Drive: Federation Way (also see item 4)

Part of the original concept of a suburban drive as envisaged by Lord Carrington and implemented by John Young contractor and former Mayor Of Sydney. Associated with Frederick Franklin, Engineer and original designer of Centennial Park, James Jones Overseer of Government Domains and Charles Moore, Director of the Sydney Botanic Gardens 1848 – 1896.

### 25. Milestone or Town Boundary Marker

Previously located adjacent to the former Moore Park Toll House and now located at the southern corner of Cleveland Street and South Dowling Street on site thought to be its original location marking the limits of the Town of Sydney in 1833.

### 26. Former Toll House corner Cleveland Street and Anzac Parade. 1860

Sandstone Toll House built 1860 adjacent to the site of an earlier structure.

### 27. Bandstand Moore Park

1909 building designed by the NSW Government Architect's Office Restored by Centennial Parklands Trust in 2004.

### 28. Tram Sheds Driver Avenue: Bus Interchange Area Moore Park

Inter war period building associated with tram loop to Sydney Showground and Sydney Cricket Ground.

### 29. Tennis Changing Rooms

Formerly Kiosk and Changing rooms.

### 30. South Dowling Street Avenue of Washingtonia robusta.

Associated with the location of the former incinerator setting.

### 31. Stone Plinth Mt Steel

Inscribed plinth flush with ground surface at highest point of Mount Steel and site of former canopy fountain. Inscription Reads: "Mount Steel 1870".

### 32. Lang Road Plantation

Remnant Ficus hillii (Hills Figs) trees as a row planting from the Inter War Period.

### 33. Fitzroy Road Plantation

Ficus macrophylla (Moreton Bay Fig) trees associated with original peripheral tree plantings at time of establishment of the park.

### 34. Drivers Triangle

Triangular formation of open space with remnant Ficus macrophylla tree plantings.

### 35. Tay Reserve

Site of former Toll house and fountain.

### 36. Federation Place

Gateway to the former Grand Drive of Centennial Park, now Federation Way and associated with the interpretation of the main processional route for the Swearing in ceremony for the establishment of Federation in 1901.

### 37. Former Showground: Brick Boundary Wall

Defining urban element to identify the expanded area associated with the Sydney Showground.

### 38. Former RAS Entry Gates and Brick Wall

Identity of main entry point into the Sydney Showground area.

### 39. Former RAS Pavilion Precinct Conservation Area.

An area as a composition of commemorative pavilions, courtyard spaces and plantings associated with the Sesqui-Centenary development of the Showground area to the north and on part of the former Military Rifle Range.

### 40. Central Parade Ground

Main Parade ground and Ring space of the Sydney Showground originally defined c. 1882 as the central trotting track. It represents the centre of the former Sydney Showground complex.

### 41. Park and Trees

Former site of main Pavilion (Agricultural Society Exhibition Hall c. 1912) overlooking the Central Parade Ground now used as a recreation site and former picnic ground with remnant landform, planting and rockery.

### 42. Former RAS Building

Former RAS offices built c. 1911 and forming an architectural subject terminating entry vista along Presidents Avenue from Main Entry Gates

### 43. Anzac Parade Obelisk 1917

Sandstone obelisk commemorating the avenue as a war memorial to those who sacrificed their lives in the Great War. Originally positioned in the centre of Anzac Parade where it begins at the intersection with Moore Park Road, it was relocated further along Anzac Parade near Gregory Avenue due to works associated with the Eastern Distributor ramp into Anzac Parade. It has since been removed to allow construction of the Tibby Cotter Walkway bridge over Anzac Parade and is currently being restored before it is reinstated in Moore Park at a location to be determined.



Fig 3. Significant Areas and Items. Markup over aerial photograph. (Cabconsulting Pty Ltd 2015 and HASSELL)



5.0 OBLIGATIONS AND CONSIDERATIONS

5.1 OBLIGATIONS:

- 1. Conserve the whole place as a significant cultural landscape where the open space is equally significant as the built object yet retaining the largely Nineteenth century parkland landscape character.
- 2. Conservation actions to be regarded as a major new contribution to the management of the landscape and its built fabric.
- 3. Conserve the open space system of Moore Park for public recreation use.
- 4. Recognise and conserve the identified heritage areas and items.
- 5. Conserve the major tree plantations in the form of avenues, rows, lines and informal copses.
- 6. Conserve existing trees generally until their condition requires replacement. Replace with the same species or those similar characteristics to be empathetic to the intended design.
- 7. Conserve the significant built fabric and any adaptation or new work should respect the form, scale and character of the significant built fabric and its landscape setting.

5.2 CONSIDERATIONS:

- 1. Restrict scale of new developments that impact adversely on the parklands through loss of open space together with impacts on heritage, environmental and social values.
- 2. Provide more tree planting throughout to replace lost specimens, visually integrate the place as a whole, provide shade, wind protection, noise mitigation, ecological habitats, visual screening to new developments and spatial definition.
- 3. Encourage the opportunity to introduce elements of the indigenous ecology of the Botany Sands system without impacting on the overall landscape character of the parklands.
- 4. Any new planting elements be expressed as a significant new layer in the evolution of the place and to have its own integrity. It should not be a copy of the historic cultural plantings but an empathetic enhancement.

- 5. Any new design projects to demonstrate an understanding of the historical evolution of the place and that design proposals be integrated with interpretation.
- 6. Improve pedestrian links within the parklands.
- 7. Consider an appropriate northern entrance to the parklands as the original composition of sandstone pillars, walls, gates and fences have been reconfigured due to Anzac Parade road changes.

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