

- In 1874, seven new dams were constructed in the Lachlan Swamps to improve the water supply.
- In 1879, it was decided to bring water to the city from Botany. When the Nepean system was completed by 1888 the Lachlan Water Reserve was abandoned.
- In 1969 investigations were again made into the suitability of Centennial Parklands as a water source. The Department of Mines constructed an observation borehole 200 yards due south of the golf clubhouse. Investigation did not recommend any further research in Centennial Parklands.

Reservoirs

- Woollahra Reservoir was built in 1879 in the north-east corner of the Sydney Common, now on the corner of York Road and Oxford Street in Centennial Park. This was the third reservoir to be built in Sydney and was in use by 1881.
- A Bill was passed in Parliament in 1894, approving a second Reservoir for Centennial Park (Reservoir No.1). The new reservoir replaced the Paddington Reservoir⁶⁶, located at a lower level.
- A third reservoir was constructed in Centennial Park in 1927 between the Superintendent's Residence and Reservoir No.1. The reservoir was built to increase the water capacity to meet the growing demand of the local population.
- The reservoirs in Centennial Park are still operational and are owned by Sydney Water. Reservoir No.1 was drained and cleaned in 1992 during repairs to the western wall and was briefly open for public viewing. The decorative fence was restored in 2001. Woollahra Reservoir was last drained in 2002 for an engineering inspection.



Reservoir No. 1. Source: Centennial Parklands



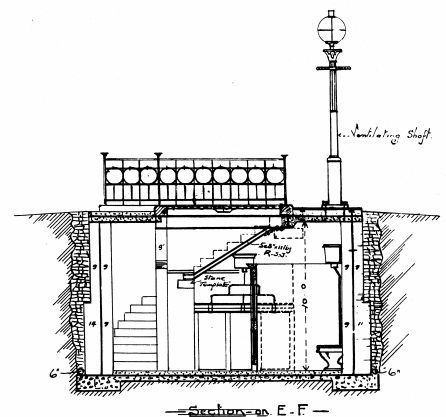
George & Annis Bills Horse Trough

Water Systems

- Several sewer mains are located under Centennial Parklands linking the city with the Bondi Sewage farm and the Coogee Out Fall.
- A network of high pressure pipes were used by the Sydney Hydraulic Power Company to supply the force to drive lifts, operate wool presses, and even open bank doors around the city and inner suburbs. The Sydney and Suburban Hydraulic Power Company Ltd. opened in 1891 and built a dam from Mount Rennie to Waterloo to use as a water supply.

Amenities

- Drinking fountains for both humans and beasts have traditionally been part of Centennial Parklands. Generally they were dedicated to individuals. Some include Walter Renny drinking fountain, Sophia Louisa Comrie fountain and the George and Annis Bills horse trough.
- The Cricket Association's memorial drinking fountain commemorates fallen comrades in the Great War.
- Fountains have been removed or relocated. Some include the cast iron Macfarlane ornamental canopy fountains that were located at the entrance to Moore Park, at the junction of Cleveland Street and South Dowling Street.
- Public toilets in Centennial Parklands have over the years, included underground toilets (later demolished), staff toilets and new public toilets.



Section of Underground Toilet. Source: Centennial Park Heritage Study

Public Services

⁶⁶ Located at 255A Oxford Street, Paddington, near Paddington Town Hall

- A garbage destructor was built at the corner of Dowling Street and Dacey Avenue in 1901 and was in use by 1902.
- The unit was to have been replaced by an incinerator designed by Walter Burley Griffin, however the scheme was re-sited in Pyrmont in 1935.
- A Dogs Home was built in 1922, in the south-west corner of Moore Park. Initially it was under the auspices of the R.S.S.A.I.L.A. before it became the R.S.P.C.A.⁶⁷. The land was continually leased to the Society on a yearly basis. The Dog's Home was finally abandoned by the society on 30th May 1971 when it was relocated to Yagoona.

4.5 Australian Theme – Working

NSW Theme – Labour

- An organised labour movement campaigned vigorously for the limitation of working hours during the 19th century. The eight hour day was granted to stonemasons in 1856 and to further craft unions in the 1860s. This initiative gave workers more opportunity to enjoy parks in their leisure time. Centennial Parklands evolved from this movement.
- In the 20th Century a labour movement surfaced with direct action from unions. The Builders Labour Federation refused to work on any proposals for a sports stadium in Moore Park, part of the 1988 Olympic bid.⁶⁸

Educating

Education

- When the Zoological Gardens were moved to Taronga Park, the land was transferred to the Department of Education.
- Sydney Girl's High School was built in 1920 occupying a tight corner of land between Anzac Parade and Cleveland Street. Pupils transferred from the city in 1921. Sydney Boy's High School was opened in 1928 and was designed with an imposing facade overlooking the grassed playing fields of the Park. Some of the plantings and old structures of the Zoological Gardens have been integrated into the landscape of the schools.
- In December 1932, the first school age supervised playground was established in Moore Park by the City Council.
- Education plays a very important role in Centennial Parklands today. Parklands hold educational workshops and activity trips for interested people of all ages.

Governing

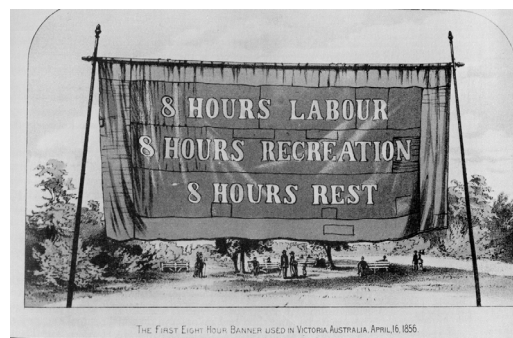
Defence

Military Defences

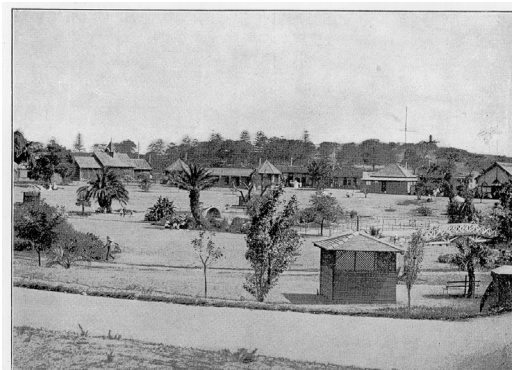
- The Victoria Barracks was built between 1841 and 1848, strategically located on a high point between North Head and Observatory Hill. The site chosen for the new Barracks was land in the northwest corner of Sydney Common.
- As the Barracks did not have a piped water supply until the late 1880s, the two shafts into Busby's Bore were used as wells until then.

⁶⁷ Royal Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals

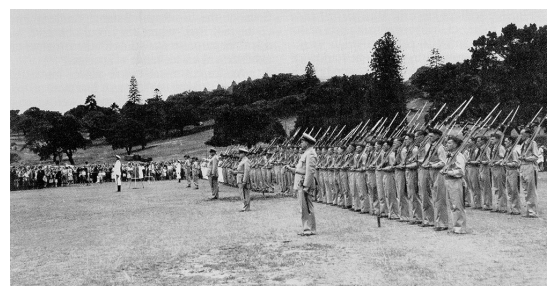
⁶⁸ Refer to report of the Aboriginal History and details of Aboriginal employment and traditional work rhythms.



Banner Advocating 8 Hour day. Source: Mitchell Library



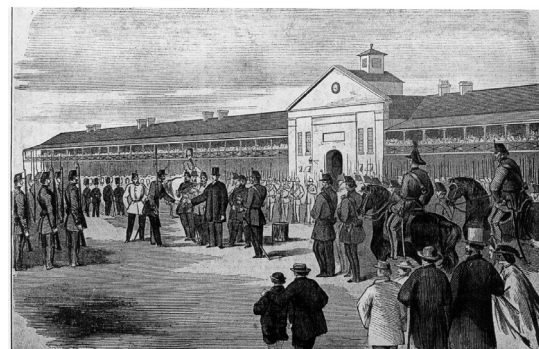
Former Moore Park Zoological Gardens. Source: Mitchell Library



The Troops on the Parade Grounds. Source: Mitchell Library.

Military Training

- When the Victoria Barracks were established, associated developments occurred in the areas immediately to the south and southeast. These included the military and volunteer rifle ranges in 1852, a military garden, and a cricket ground (later the Sydney Cricket Ground).
- A new rifle range opened in 1862 and ran parallel and south of the military range.
- The longevity of the Range is a testament to its popularity.
- Centennial Parklands were used by the military for drilling exercises, military reviews, parades and engineering exercises during both World Wars. The Military engineers used the lakes to test the construction of temporary bridges and the army practiced their drills around the grand drive.



The Governor presents Volunteers with Marksmen Badges following a competition at Victoria Barracks in 1867. Source: Mitchell Library

World War II

- The impact of World War II meant that from 1940-1942 the military occupied Centennial Parklands. In the south section of Centennial Park and Moore Park the military constructed a series of buildings. These included air-raid shelters, which were removed in 1947, and housing for personnel, which was removed in 1951.
- When Centennial Parklands were returned to civilian occupation, the Department of Agriculture in their Annual Reports had a few complaints to make concerning damage to the landscape made during the military occupation:

Government and Administration

Administration

- In his declaration of the Sydney Second Common, Governor Macquarie proclaimed it to be public land. From 1811 to 1861 regulations and administrative decisions about land use were made by the Governors office.
- Sydney Council took control of the Water Supply in 1842 and was responsible for the whole of the Lachlan Water Reserve. In 1861, it was decided that the whole of the Sydney Common did in fact belong to the people of Sydney. common land given authority of the Municipal Council. Moore Park was then laid out.
- It is important to note that different areas of Centennial Parklands came under different administrations. These differences have contributed to the individuality of the different areas within Centennial Parklands today.
- The Department of Agriculture took charge of the administration in 1908. In 1984, the Centennial Park & Moore Park Trust was appointed to administer all of the Centennial Park and Moore Park. In 1990 the Centennial Park & Moore Park Trust was appointed to administer the Moore Park Golf course and in 1992 the E.S. Marks Field.
- The Trust administers Centennial Parklands in accordance with the Centennial Park and Moore Park Trust Act 1983. The Trust are responsible for the Premier for overseeing the management and policy direction of the organisation. They meet monthly to consider major procedural and policy matters on advice from management.

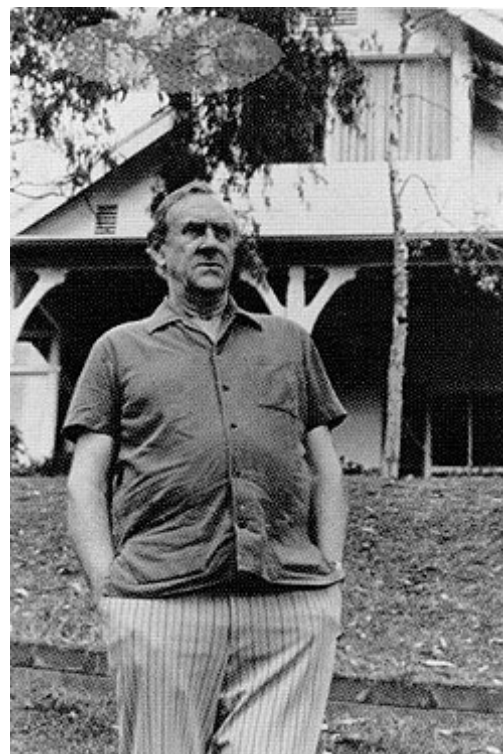
Policy

- In 1866 the Municipal Council were granted 490 acres of the common and set up an Improvement Committee to review the common and the options for developing the land.

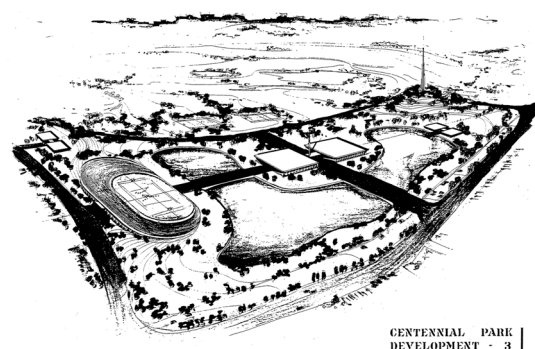
- In 1867, a report from the Improvement Committee recommended that the land hitherto known as the Sydney Common be designated 'Moore Park'.
- They also approved the sale of the land between the South Head Road and Moore Park Road to fund the development of a public park.
- Moore Park remained under the administration of the council, who oversaw the development of sports facilities and leased land to the Zoological Society and Showground. The council allowed developments as long as they perceived them to be for the good of the community.
- In 1982, the South Sydney Council adopted the concept of urban forestry and decided to plant out areas of Moore Park. These areas consisted of forest trees (*Eucalyptus* species) planted in grassed areas. The first Plan of Management was produced for Centennial Park in 1995.
- Since Centennial Park was designed and landscaped, the policy for the park has always focused on maintenance rather than change. The administration has tried to preserve the unique character and style of the park for the maximum enjoyment of the public.
- Following a public campaign the whole of Centennial Park was declared as a bird sanctuary in 1919.
- In 1963, the Centennial Park administration was attacked over issues of maintenance. In response to these accusations of neglect, an inter-departmental committee and a Supervisory Committee were established in 1964 to discuss management policy.

Community Involvement

- Public opinion has been an important influence on policy decisions. Community opinion has always been forthcoming, from as early as 1858 there are records of public protest relating to a proposed cemetery in the common.
- During the late 1870s people were lobbying the Councils of Woollahra and Paddington to use the Water Reserve as a public park when its water supply function ended in 1886. It was an ideal location for a park, given that 65% of metropolitan Sydney was living within a 5 mile radius of the area. The area had become densely populated and it was felt by the local residents that an 'additional air lung to the city' was needed.
- Since World War II, Centennial Parklands have been the focus point of a number of public protests. The majority of this protest has focused on the issue of passive and active recreation, and private and public use. The increased use of the park by various sporting bodies in the 1950s resulted in demands for the construction of a sporting stadium and sporting facilities. This brought a public outcry, particularly from residents of Randwick, Woollahra, and Paddington. In 1950, the pressure was successful and the Attorney General Martin claimed that he would oppose any attempt to develop a stadium in the park⁶⁹.
- Throughout the 1960s there were several more proposals for sporting facilities in Centennial Parklands. Community opposition demanded that land not be taken from public use for the leisure of the minority. In 1964, their voices were heard and the Premier rejected the proposal to develop a sporting complex on parkland property.
- The 1988 Olympics bid produced another proposal for a sports complex in Moore Park. Again there was public outrage and this led to the foundation of the Save the Parks campaign.
- The campaign was founded as an urban park conservation group. It actively sought to maintain existing parkland for public enjoyment and to



Patrick White author and activist. Source: Mitchell Library



Proposal for sports development in Centennial Park in 1960. From Centennial Park Heritage Study.

⁶⁹ *Sydney Morning Herald*, November 30 1950, p6

prevent its alienation by public or private development activities, injurious to its ornamental and natural state⁷⁰.

- In response to public protest, architect Bunning was commissioned to examine the Moore Park site and other alternatives. In 1979, Bunning recommended the Homebush Bay site for the Olympics.
- A compromise deal followed and the Premier was obliged to grant an athletics field in Moore Park as a trade-off for the sporting complex at Homebush Bay.
- The campaign, supported by The National Trust of Australia, believed that the main focus of Centennial Park should be a landscaped countryside park⁷¹. It was felt that Moore Park and Queens Park should support organised sports because they did not have the historical associations of Centennial Park.
- It was also noticed by the Save the Parks campaigners, that Moore Park had over the years shifted from being a state and metropolitan park, to being an urban regional facility. They felt that any proposals should consider the impact on surrounding residents.
- The Save the Park lobby group has had considerable influence over the last four decades of the 20th century. It has brought the need for protection of Centennial Parklands to the attention of the local and state governments, as well as to the public and private sectors.
- They have influenced the use of the park and vehicular access, they have campaigned against noise pollution from the Royal Agricultural Society showground and the Sydney Cricket Ground. They granted horse riding as acceptable for Centennial Parklands and cycling has been allowed without the construction of more roads.
- The Save the Parks group has demanded that the government respond to this by protecting the park for the people who use and need it.
- Not all of their protests have been successful, and in recent years land has been taken for the construction of the Eastern Distributor, and the old showground site was not reclaimed as parklands but leased to Fox Studios.
- Community consultation is now an important part of the future of Centennial Parklands. The *Centennial Park and Moore Park Trust Act 1983* provided for the establishment of the Community Consultative Committee and additional stakeholder consultation groups are convened as required. Current examples include the Bushland Management Group and the Companion Animals Reference Group.

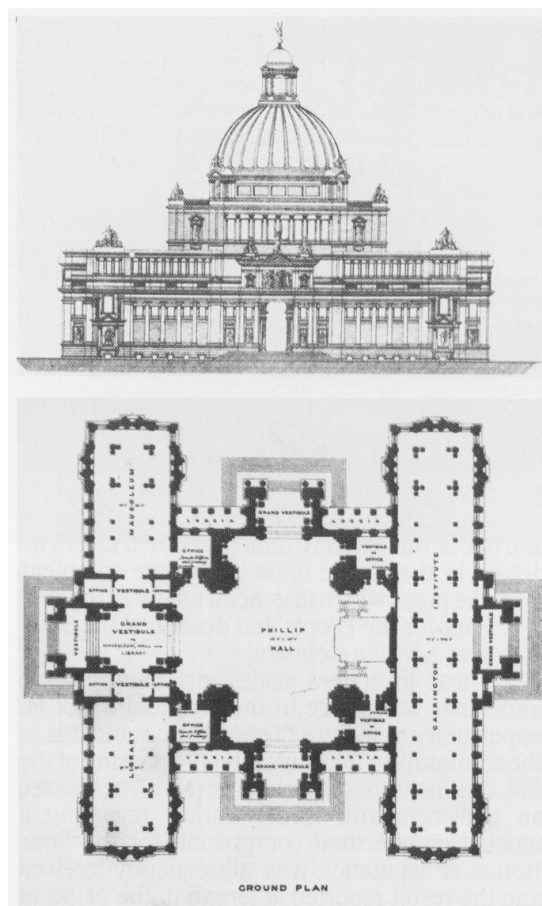
Law and Order

Crime

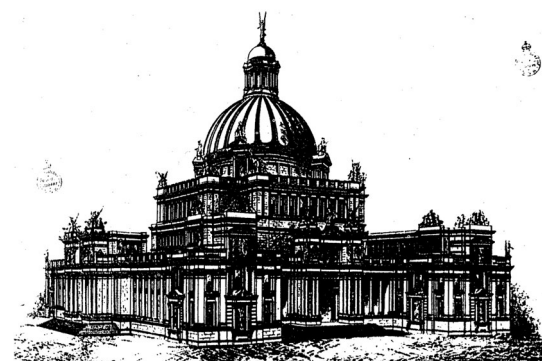
- In 1851 a duel was held at the Lachlan Swamps. The duel was between Stuart Donaldson and Sir Thomas Mitchell, the first NSW Premier.
- Simon Henry Pearce, a Bailiff and Commissioner of Crown Lands of the County of Cumberland (1851-56) was sworn in as Randwick's first Mayor in 1859. He supported residents' concerns about unauthorised quarrying of stone and sand, dumping of night soil and removal of indigenous vegetation. These dumps, thinly covered with undergrowth, accentuated the perception of the landscape as 'unsightly'.

⁷⁰ 'Proposal for a Park Management Plan for Centennial Park, Sydney, Randwick and Waverley Municipalities' Centennial Park Archives, p3

⁷¹ The future Planning of the Moore Park Centennial Park Area, A submission by The National Trust of Australia (NSW), November 1977



Elevation and Plan for the State House. Source: Mitchell Library



A design proposal for the State House. Source: Centennial Park Heritage Study

- In 1886, Mount Rennie became renowned as the site of a well-publicised crime.
- In 1938 relief workers removed an old dam embankment from Queens Park to level ground and create playing fields.⁷²
- From 1929 to 1939, 32,000 pounds was given to Centennial Park to pay for clearing lakes, renovating roads, constructing footpaths, removing rubbish and over growth, and levelling the ground.
- In the mid 1980's a murder occurred and raised public concern about safety in Centennial Parklands.
- Vandalism has caused a lot of damage in Centennial Parklands.

Park regulations:

- By 1840 a ranger was brought in to live in the reserve and to protect the common and water reserve against unauthorised pillaging of timber, quarrying of stone and sand, as well as preventing the dumping of night soil.
- In 1914, it was deemed necessary to close the park at night. This was due to the amount of damage done to the park at nighttime, through vandalism and reckless driving. However, this didn't prevent people coming in by foot and so a proposal was made in 1938 for streetlights in Centennial Park, in an attempt to prevent crime. Detailed plans for the scheme were made, but they were never implemented.
- Attempts to protect the park were introduced in 1892 with the introduction of regulations. These rules and regulations have been adapted and added to over the years to produce the current level of protection and management.

Welfare

1880s

- When Henry Parkes abandoned the plans for a State House, he enthusiastically adopted the idea of a recreational park and referred to it as the People's Park.
- For the plan to be implemented, a lot of workers were needed and this helped to reduce the large number of Sydney's unemployed. James Jones diary refers to the scheme to put the unemployed to work on the park, helping to landscape Centennial Park and work on the Grand Drive, although the quality of work was neither professional, nor effective.
- The number of workers was gradually reduced due to their laziness and by the end of June 1896, 'sand-shifting' at the Park came to an end.⁷³

1930s

- The Great Depression of the 1930s saw such extensive unemployment that private charities were unable to cope with the demand. Government intervention, in the form of unemployment relief, was instigated at a level totally unprecedented in the country's history. Relief came in the form of food coupons and the provision of relief work. The relief work at Centennial Parklands concentrated principally on Centennial Park.⁷⁴
- In 1932, New South Wales organised an Unemployment Relief Council to oversee all state actions, which provided money to council to level ground and form sports playing areas for Sydney Boys High School on Centennial Park and Moore Park grounds.

⁷² Ashton, P *Centennial Park* p 122-3

⁷³ Labour and Industry in Australia. Vol IV. P 2041

⁷⁴ Department of Agriculture, *Annual Reports 1924 – 1979*, 30/6/34

- In 1929, a proposal to join York Street to Victoria Street through Queens Park caused a great uproar, until it was made clear that it would provide employment. The conflict between protecting the boundaries of Centennial Parklands and the need for employment ultimately resulted in the further subdivision of parkland space.
- During the 1930s, much of the parks' upkeep was carried out with the assistance of thousands of Relief Workers. The parks provided financial relief for many families who would otherwise have suffered even greater hardship during the Depression. The Relief Worker's Fund ended with the advent of World War II.

4.6 Australian Theme Developing Australia's Cultural Life

NSW Theme -Creative Endeavor

Music

- Musical events were encouraged with the building of a bandstand in 1900 and recitals were played there from 1901 onwards.
- In 1950 the Sydney Symphony Orchestra played in Centennial Park and from this point on ABC concerts have been held in the north-eastern corner of the Park. Recently musical festivals, like
- The Concert for life and Big, Bold and Brassy, have been held in the park held in 2000.

Literature

- The Centennial Parklands have also provided the backdrop for important pieces of Australian literature. Patrick White, a supporter of the park references Centennial Parklands in his two novels, "Flaws in the Glass: A self –portrait (1981) and "the eye of the storm" (1973).
- Centennial Park was also mentioned in Peter Mather's novel the 'Trap' (1966).
- The literary connection is maintained as the journalist and poet Elizabeth Riddell lives alongside the Park.

Film

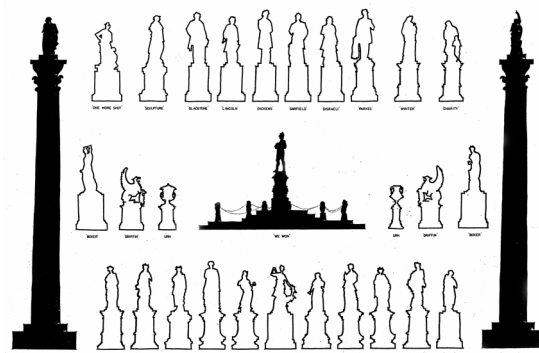
- Centennial Parklands has been used as the setting for a number of films including Phar Lap, Patsy and *The Night of the Prowler*. A John Cleary's novel was made into a film, *You Can't See Around Corners* that also featured Centennial Park. Centennial Parklands have also hosted the Moon Light cinema in recent years held during early summer.⁷⁵

Artworks

- The original drawings of Austin Platt have been donated to the Centennial Park and Moore Park Trust by the Platt family. They are an important collection of works focusing on Centennial Park. Centennial Parklands were also a subject of interest for other artists. Both Ashton and Wakelin painted in Centennial Parklands and their work can be seen at the Art Gallery of New South Wales.⁷⁶

Statues & Sculpture

- Sculpture can be found integrated into the fabric of Centennial Parklands. Reliefs on gates and freestanding sculptures add an interesting artistic element to Centennial Parklands. Much of the



Profiles of Statues originally in Centennial Park.
Source: Centennial Park Heritage Study



Original statue of Sir Henry Parkes. Source: Centennial Parklands



Winning Sculpture of Diane Hunt from a 1967 competition to give recognition to the achievements of Australian Sportswomen

⁷⁵ Phillip Black Personal Communication.

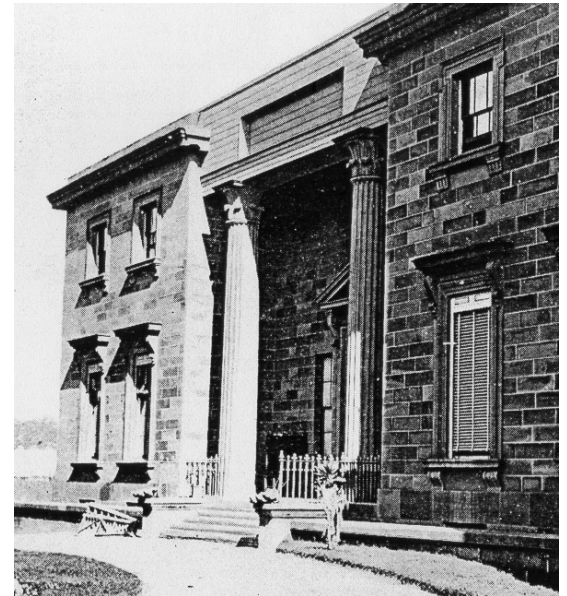
⁷⁶ List of Artworks relating to the parklands can be found in Centennial Park and Moore Park archives.

decoration includes iconography associated with the natural beauty of the parks.

- In 1967, a competition was established by the council to design a fountain or sculpture "to give recognition to the achievements of Australian Sportswomen over the years". The winning entry was designed by Diane Hunt.
- Statues were very fashionable and popular during the Victorian period.
- More statues were erected throughout the 1890's.
- As a result of vandalism most of the statues within the park were removed and stored in 1970.

Sandstone Columns

- The two sandstone columns in the rose garden appear to have originally formed the structure of the William Street Wing of the Australian Museum, designed by James Barnet and constructed between 1866 and 1868.
- Fluted columns which flanked the front doorway were dismantled and removed to Centennial Park where they were used as an architectural incident in the romantic park landscape, which was managed by Charles Moore, Director of the Sydney Botanic Gardens and also Trustee of the Museum⁷⁷.
- Two sculptured female classical figures were mounted on the columns and are the only remaining sculptures originally placed in the park.



Sandstone Columns at the Australian Museum now in situ at Centennial Park. Source: Australian Museum Library.

NSW Theme - Leisure

- Centennial Parklands have a long history in providing a range of recreation benefits to the local community. Sir Henry Parkes adopted the idea of a recreational park and referred to it as the "peoples park".
- The policy of providing supervision upon children's playgrounds in the City of Sydney was first adopted by the Council in 1932. Prior to the adoption of this policy the Council had provided unsupervised areas for children's recreation.
- The facility, known as the Moore Park Leisure Centre became a community facility with indoor sport and recreation facilities and provided programmes for adults and children. The facility was demolished following approval by the Trust, due to the Eastern Distributor project significantly encroaching on the site and severely impacting on pedestrian and car access to the facility. One of the original buildings has been retained on the site.
- A number of public protests over the years have focused on the issues of passive and active recreation and private and public use. In addition, community opposition has demanded that land not be taken from public use for the leisure of the minority.
- The post-war economic boom and technological innovation in industry and at home was seen by many as leading to a golden age of leisure. This is reflected in the increased range of leisure, sporting, cultural and entertainment facilities, activities and usage in Centennial Parklands.
- Today, the Trust's vision, mission, community values and management strategies reflect its role of managing Centennial Parklands so as to provide a range of recreation benefits to the community.



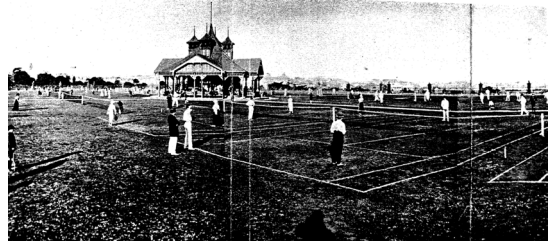
Horse riding in the Parklands. Source: Centennial Parklands.

⁷⁷ The Australian Museum, A Conservation Analysis, prepared by Helen Proudfoot and Otto Cserhalmi & Assoc, 1984, p.27 (cited as information from Dr JR Specht); also mentioned in *Sydney Morning Herald*, 12 March 1930, "To the Editor of the Herald: The Columns in Centennial Park."

- The future challenge for the Trust is to respond to likely future recreation participation and demands affected by issues such as available time, communications and overseas trends, level of commitment, technology and safety.

Sport

- Sport has been an important element in the development of Centennial Parklands and has also been an issue of contention as people argue for and against active and passive recreation.⁷⁸ For example cricket fields.
- The creation of Moore Park as a concept of 'Pleasure Grounds' made the former Common into a popular recreation ground in Sydney. The park was soon in great demand, particularly as a venue for sports. The rapid development of organised sport was witnessed in Moore Park in the 1880s. All three codes of Football were played in Moore Park by the 1880s. The Park was the venue for the Carrington track and in 1882 the Australian Golf Club course.
- The use of the Park by sporting groups and the military resulted in conflict. At times the Military and Volunteer Rifle Ranges were being used at the same time as the cricket pitches nearby.
- In the early 1890s after the Main Drive and Ride was completed, Centennial Park became the venue for a wide range of activities, including horse riding, boating on the ponds, model yachts and cycling.
- From early 1892 permission was granted to several local cricket and football clubs to play in the park.
- Tennis matches used to be played on top of the reservoirs until the courts were closed in 1917. Two more tennis court areas have been set aside since then in Moore Park.
- The construction of the E.S. Marks sporting fields commenced in 1936, and the cinder track was completed in 1947. Various improvements have been made to the field since then, including fencing, lighting, changing and toilet amenities and the concrete bleacher seating.
- The McKay Oval was developed from the use of the former Zoological Gardens in 1920 as playing fields by the Girls and Boys High School.
- In 1938, an agreement was made between Waverley College and the Premier to allow them to use Queens Park for sports.
- Centennial Park was also used for a bicycle race held in 1938 and also as a venue for equestrian events related to the Royal Easter Show.
- In 1895 the Australian Golf Club established an eleven-hole golf course in Queen's Park. It moved to Botany in 1899.
- 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.
- In 1947 the Department of Agriculture reported Centennial Park as being much in demand for. By 1951 playing fields were fully occupied by players of cricket, hockey, football, basketball and baseball. Additional areas were provided for 'flyers of model aircraft and for gymkhanas'.
- Additional changing rooms and toilet facilities were constructed in 1955-56 to accommodate the additional needs placed on the park. Another post-war addition to Moore Park was the Bowling Club below the Golf Club.
- In 1961 the Eastern Suburbs Dog Training Club was established and continues to conduct obedience training for dogs in Centennial Park on a weekly basis.



Tennis matches being played at the beginning of the 20th century. Source: Centennial Park Heritage Study.



Cycling in the Park. Source: Mitchell Library



Early use of the Park for recreation. Source: Mitchell Library

⁷⁸ Refer to report of the Indigenous History for indigenous sporting history.

- Sport still plays an important role in Centennial Parklands today with the Olympic road race events held in Centennial Park in 2000.
- However the protected nature of Centennial Park as a reserve for Flora and Fauna and the vociferous opposition by the local community, has prevented the building of many of the sports developments that have been proposed.

4.7 Australian Theme-Marking the Phases of life

NSW Theme - Birth and death

Cemetery

- In the 1840s the perceived wasteland of the Lachlan swamp area was proposed as a suitable location for a new public cemetery due to a lack of other suitable burial grounds.
- In 1847, an Act was passed for the establishment of a General Cemetery near the city of Sydney⁷⁹.
- By 1857, however, the proposed Lachlan swamps site had still not been developed. This delay was due to community concerns about the suitability of the land.
- A proposition for two sixty-acre plots just beyond the watershed of the Lachlan Swamps, west of Randwick Road, and south of the proposed extension of Cleveland-Street was put forward
- A plan was quickly developed and quotes for the fencing off the proposed area were sought and costs put forward by the Colonial Architect, Alex Dawson.
- Residents from Surry Hills and the surrounding local area protested and expressed concern about pollution to reservoirs. These were at first ignored but by 1861 the proposal did not succeed resulting in the cessation of any works.



Hayes Pavilion, Queens Park



Sir Henry Parkes Statue unveiled 1996



Drinking Fountain commemorating William Kippax

⁷⁹ Minute of Executive Council, Minute 58-24, 7 June 1958 In Legislative Assembly, Burial Grounds No. 90, p.69

Commemorative Monuments

- Centennial Parklands provide an important public space to recognise the achievements of individuals as well as to commemorate important events. There are numerous commemorative monuments in Centennial Parklands, each with individual significance.⁸⁰ This included two drinking fountains, one commemorating William Kippax another for John Dunmore Lang and one known as the 'Comrie Memorial Fountain'.
- In 1897 a statue of Sir Henry Parkes was installed to mark his achievements, but unfortunately the statue was destroyed in 1970. A replacement was made and the new statue was erected in the commemorative triangle, overlooking the park he was so instrumental in creating. In the early 1920s, two cannons were placed in the Commemorative triangle to revitalise an area in decline. The Cannons were relics of the Crimean war and still remain in the park today, flanking the statue of 'We Won' statue.
- The Great War was marked by a commemorative drinking fountain in the Park, located on the northern side of Cleveland Street at the corner with South Dowling Street and diagonally opposite the Bat and Ball Hotel. The fountain was erected by members of the Moore Park Cricket Association, in memory of their comrades who fell in the Great War 1914-18.
- R. H. Brodrick, the City Architect, designed an obelisk to mark the opening of Anzac Parade in 1917. In 1922 flower trays were added to the obelisk and in 1923 extra bands for flowers and wreaths were built.
- In 1941, the Municipal Council of Sydney erected the Jessie Stuart Broomfield Memorial Dog Trough and Fountain. It was located near to the northern corner of Driver Avenue and Macarthur Avenue. The design is symmetrical, small in scale and built of brick.
- In 1962, a plaque was erected in Centennial Park at the corner of Lang Rd. and Oxford St. to commemorate the 125th anniversary of the Australian Gas Light Company.
- Centennial Park marked the bicentenary with a new Federation Memorial Pavilion and Centenary of Federation garden in 1988.

Boundary Stones

- By order of Governor Bourke, nine boundary markers were placed to delineate the limits of the Town of Sydney in 1833. Eight of these were stone markers.
- The 'Boundary Stone' that marked the south-eastern limit of Sydney Town was located mid-way along the western edge of the Sydney Common. It is inscribed "SYDNEY – Maj Genl R Bourke – GOVERNOR – 1833 – ". This 'Boundary Stone' remained within Moore Park, although forgotten and neglected after being replaced in 1842 by City of Sydney cast iron Ward Boundary Markers.
- In 2001 this 'Boundary Stone' was relocated to the south-eastern intersection of Cleveland Street and South Dowling Street, in close proximity to its original location. It is accompanied by an interpretive plaque.

Commemorative Names

Various Lakes, Roads, Parks and Reserves and Buildings through out Centennial Parklands have commemorative names after famous people associated with the overall development of Centennial Parklands. These are

⁸⁰ Refer to ongoing report of the Aboriginal History and details of Aboriginal soldiers.



Cannon from the Crimean War



Great War Cricketers Association Memorial Drinking Fountain



Boundary Stone

listed in Volume 3 of the Centennial Parklands Conservation Management Plan: Thematic History.

4.8 Modern Overview

- Centennial Park covers 213 hectares and draws more than 3.6 million visits annually, mostly for informal recreation.
- Moore Park measures 115 hectares and attracts approximately 1.2 million people annually.
- Queen's Park occupies 26 hectares and draws more than 250,000 visits a year.
- In 2001 there were a number of works proposed for Centennial Parklands. Some of these occurred while the draft Conservation Management Plan was in progress, others were pending. They have been described below:

Tay Reserve

- Tay Reserve is a residual portion of the Common isolated due to the Kensington subdivision and road developments. Randwick Council have "permissive occupancy" and have maintained the Reserve. Randwick Council, have proposed to develop the site as an entry to Randwick Council area, while Centennial Parklands have proposed a gateway to Centennial Parklands.

Federation Way (former extension of Grand Drive)

- Federation Way was one of three major capital projects to celebrate the Centenary of Federation in 2001 and was funded by a \$7.9 million grant from the Commonwealth Government under the Federation Fund.
- The project intended to reinstate the ceremonial entrance of the Grand Drive extension to link Moore Park and Centennial Park, and included road works, street and feature lighting, plantings, paving and infrastructure work including a new gateway designed by Alexander Tzannes. The existing tree plantings are being incorporated into a modern interpretation.
- Federation Way is for pedestrian and cycle use with vehicular access only during ceremonial functions.
- The proposal was submitted to South Sydney Council in March 2001. Work commenced during the preparation of this Conservation Management Plan and with NSW Heritage Office approval.

Former Toll House, Moore Park

- The Trust proposes to restore the former Toll House on the corner of Anzac Parade and Lang Road. The restoration could include adaptive re-use of the Toll House and old Bowling Green site as an interpretive centre (possibly including a café and hire facility with lawn activities). It is proposed in the Moore Park South Masterplan that this include a key Park entry site and link to Federation Way with a pedestrian/ cycle overpass.

Moore Park Golf Clubhouse

- There is a proposal to improve the existing Moore Park Golf Clubhouse and enhance existing function facilities in the original building. The proposal aims to link the driving range to Clubhouse and open up the Clubhouse at the rear ground level to provide café/ bistro facilities to enable increased member and public usage.
- The Clubhouse entry would be redesigned to provide additional underground carparking (if feasible) between clubhouse and driving

range, reduce the size of at-grade parking to reduce visual impact, protect heritage significant trees and provide additional open space areas on the slopes of Mount Steele.

- The Driving Range would be reconfigured to improve landscape and access. In addition, it is proposed that environmentally sustainable management be adopted to demonstrate Best Practice techniques across Moore Park Golf Course.

ES Marks Athletics Field

- There is a proposal to replace the current facility with a multi-use sports facility, which may include indoor/outdoor athletics, tennis gym, health and fitness, aquatic, sports medicine and campus-style sports and education related accommodation with facility for facility parking.
- There is a long-term proposal for the consolidation of the childcare centre, golf course depot and some Centennial Parklands administration into the sporting complex.
- There is a proposal to establish new open space areas in proximity to the Anzac Parade and Dacey Avenue intersection and retain vegetated hillslopes in the southern and western perimeter areas.



E. S Marks Sports Field

Jessie Broomfield Memorial Fountain and Dog Trough

- The original Dog Trough, dating to 1941, was donated by Jessie Broomfield and was one of several throughout Sydney council areas. It was located near to the corner of Drivers Avenue and former Macarthur Avenue in Moore Park and was removed in 1999 when the new Bus loop was constructed.
- There is a proposal to replace the trough with a new design undertaken by Centennial Parklands staff and is awaiting installation adjacent the new toilet block in Moore Park, near the bus loop.

Comrie Memorial Fountain

- The Comrie Fountain, a gift from Jessie Comrie, was originally located in Queens Square, Sydney in 1904 and served as a drinking fountain for humans, horses and dogs. It was relocated in Driver Avenue, near Moore Park Road in 1934 and was removed from that site in 1999 as a result of the Eastern Distributor road works.
- The decision as to the relocation of the Comrie Fountain in Moore Park is pending and awaiting outcomes of the Conservation Management Plan.

Moore Park Entrance Gates

- Photographic documentation shows that originally there were six sandstone pillars that comprised the gateway to Moore Park at the corner of Randwick Road and Moore Park Road. These have been relocated with numerous road widening.
- Prior to the construction of the Eastern Distributor, four remained (two on either side of Anzac Parade). Two pillars were removed from the site in 1999 when the Eastern Suburbs Distributor road works were undertaken. Decision associated with the proposed reinstatement of the pillars is pending.

York Road Bushland Site

- The site between Moriah College and the Eastern Suburbs Hospital contains remnant bushland on deep white sand. Part of the bushland is recognised as Eastern Suburbs Banksia Scrub (ESBS), which is an endangered ecological community listed on the Waverley LEP, the NSW *Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995* and the Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*.

- Aerial photographs taken in 1930, 1944 and 1947 show that the whole block of land bounded by York Road, Queens Park Road and Baronga Avenue was cleared, with some hospital buildings visible in 1947. The white sand revealed in these early photographs is very clear. In 1969 only isolated trees or shrubs and grass can be discerned from the aerial photographs. By 1978 more vegetation can be seen to have grown and the sand is more clearly visible.
- In 1998 the undeveloped land was apportioned between the Department of Health, Department of Education (TAFE) and the Centennial Park and Moore Park Trust. The Trust's landholding is on Lot 23.
- In 2002 the Trust convened a Bushland Management Group to provide community and technical advice on the development and implementation of a Vegetation Management Plan for the site.

Randwick and Busby's Ponds

- The program of Pond restoration for all Centennial Parklands ponds was halted owing to use of Centennial Parklands for the 2000 Olympics and the Federation celebrations. It is intended that remedial work proceed in 2001.

McKay Sports Grounds

- The McKay Sports Ground has been used and maintained by Sydney Boys High School for many years. The old fence was deteriorating and was removed for replacement as per the original.

Hand upon Hand Sculpture

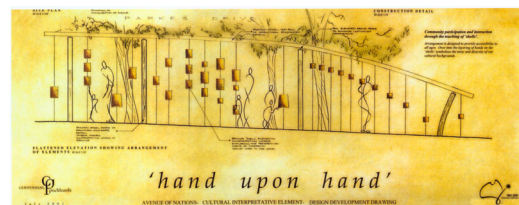
- Part of the Federal Government's Centenary of Federation funding to replant Parkes Drive with Queensland Kauri Pines to replace the failing palm trees, and to be known as the Avenue of Nations. An interpretative sculptural element has been designed and constructed by Centennial Parkland staff at the southeast junction entering the Administration Office and depot.

Frog Hollow Drain

- The proposal for a children's play area in the vicinity of the Frog Hollow drain opposite the Cafeteria.

Federation Valley

- Completion of interpretative elements as per Centenary of Federation Valley funding, included seating and historical information panels.



A vehicle for communication and connection between cultures, Hand upon Hand, designed by Gillian Smart. Source: Centennial Parklands.