OBJECTION

**The Federal Redistribution 2009
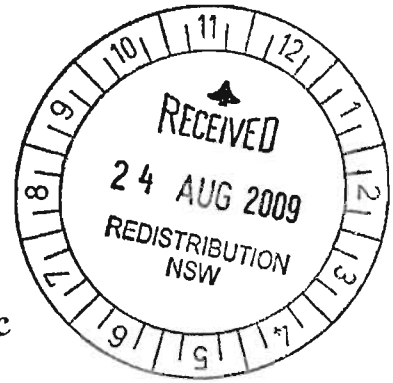NSW**

Objection Number 22

by

June M Bullivant OAM, Granville Historical Society Inc

35 Pages

Granville Historical Society Inc
Heritage Research Centre
ABN 75 439 913 257

P.O. Box 320
Granville NSW 2142

23rd August 2009

Redistribution Committee
Australian Electoral Commission

REDISTRIBUTION OF SEATS IN NSW 2009

The Granville Historical Society at their meeting on Saturday 22nd August 2009 resolved to submit the following comments on the proposed subdivision and naming of the seat in the Granville area.

The Guidelines of the AEC are to name seats after deceased Australians who have rendered outstanding service to their country and that every effort should be made to retain the names of the original Federal Divisions.

What concerns the Society that in one sweep of the pen the Redistribution Committee can wipe out the Heritage and History of one of the earliest established seats in our Nation.

Our Society has been established since 1988 and in that time we have collected the history of our area, the districts surrounding it and also Australia. We collect Family as well as local history.

- The seat named after Sir George Houston Reid was established in 1922 being 87 years old. The Electoral Office has been established in Granville for 40 years. The seat has been represented by many well known people who have done a lot for our country, for instance the Late Jack Lang was responsible for the widows, old age pension and many other things that we enjoy today. Tom Uren who served our country, was captured and made a prisoner of war. The society is disturbed that the committee could even consider the dissolution of the seat considering men of this calibre has served our Nation.

- The proposed seat of McMahon being formerly Lowe was established in 1949 which is only 60 years old and was named after an English man who spent 7 years

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in the Australia and who was a campaigner who opposed sending convicts to Australia and did not contribute to Australia very much at all.
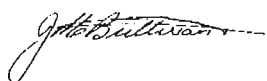
Granville has a range of new arrivals from a diverse group of nations from throughout the world. For the most part they live in harmony, they get married, and have a family, and they work and educate them to grow up to be proud Australians. The society assists these people with local and Australian history for their school, TAFE and University projects.

Modern Granville has a vast area of people who work voluntarily to keep the suburb operating as a rich source of people who protect and educate their communities. Many families belong to the local church organisations and village communities, they volunteer for the sporting activities, and they perform fund raising to provide for charitable work for the future. These people deserve to have a representative who lives and works in the local community, a person that they trust, and a person who knows the local area, its history and the culture of the inhabitants.

To have the seat changed to McMahon, a man from the North Shore who went to Sydney Grammar School is not a good representative of the area of Granville. The society implores the committee to rethink this redistribution and retain the seat of Reid.

Included with this submission is the History of the Reid Electorate.

Yours sincerely

June M Bullivant OAM
For the Granville Historical Society Inc
Heritage Research Centre

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The History of the Reid Electorate

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History of the Federal Seat of Reid

The Federal seat of Reid was established in 1922, the seat was named after former Prime Minister Mr George Houstoun Reid. George Reid was born on 25th February 1845[1] at Johnstone, Renfrewshire, Scotland. George arrived in Australia with his family in 1852[2] He was educated at the Melbourne Academy, later named Scotch College circa 1852-57.[3]

In 1858 at the age of thirteen he became a clerk in Sydney and by 1864 he became an assistant accountant in the Colonial Treasury.[4] Reid soon became interested in politics and having participated in debating at the Sydney Mechanics' School of Arts, was pushing the free trade in Australia, winning membership of the Cobden Club for writing the book *Five Free Trade Essays.*[5]

George became the Secretary of the New South Wales Attorney General's Department in 1898. Reid made his step into the political arena when he stood for the New South Wales Legislative Assembly in East Sydney in November 1880, topping the poll, but was unseated on a technical point in January 1884.[6] He was re-elected in 1885. He supported Sir Henry Parkes when he wanted Federation in 1889; however he soon saw problems with the idea especially for New South Wales.

George Houstoun Reid
NAA A1200 L11178

George married Florence [Flora] Ann Brumby [born on the 10th November 1867] the daughter of a Tasmanian farmer; she had moved to Sydney and were wed on the 5th November 1891.

Parkes resigned after losing Parliamentary support in October 1891.[7] Reid was elected to the party leadership and Leader of the Opposition to the

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[1] National Australian Archives Fast Facts - Australia's Prime Ministers page1
[2] National Archives of Australia Sir George Houstoun Reid page 108
[3] National Archives of Australia Sir George Houstoun Reid page 108
[4] National Archives of Australia Sir George Houstoun Reid page 108
[5] National Archives of Australia Sir George Houstoun Reid page 108
[6] National Archives of Australia Sir George Houstoun Reid page 108

June M Bullivant OAM Granville Historical Society

Government of Sir George Dibb. Reid and his party won a majority of votes in the election of 1894 and George Reid took office on 2nd August 1894, holding the office of Premier and Treasurer.

George Reid earned his nickname Yes-No Reid because of first having supported Federation and then being against it. After working on the draft Constitution so that New South Wales was treated more fairly he approved the move to Federation. His support of Federation lost him the support of his constituents and although winning his seat his Government was unable to survive, he resigned his premiership to Sir William Lyne on 13th September 1899.[8]

Reid became Prime Minister by standing in the Federal seat of East Sydney; he won the seat comfortably, becoming Leader of the Opposition. The first two governments of Deakin and Watson only lasted to 1904. Reid formed a coalition with Allan McLean who was leader of the Protectionist Party and became Prime Minister on 18th August 1904. Deakin didn't want to support the new Government and together with half his party formed a partnership with the Labor Party.

This left the Reid Government with a majority of one in the House of Representatives and outnumbered in the Senate. The Government was censured on 30th June 1905 by Deakin.
Reid and his Government left office on 5th July 1905, Reid passed the Conciliation and Arbitration Act 1904 with minor amendments. George Reid retired in 1908.

Flora Reid supported her husband throughout his political career, although being half his age she gave birth to three children Thelma c1893, Douglas 1895, and Clive in 1899. Flora joined the Women's Federal League, and when George took the post of Australia's First High Commissioner to the United Kingdom becoming Dame Grand Cross of the British Empire for her work for the Australian servicemen in hospital or on leave in London.

Alfred Deakin 1948
NAA A1200/18

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[7] National Archives of Australia Sir George Houstoun Reid page 108
[8] National Archives of Australia Sir George Houstoun Reid page 109

After George died she returned to Sydney where she died on 1st September 1930.[9]

People who played a key role in the political life of George Houstoun Reid were Sir Edmund Barton who was a Protectionist member of the House of Representatives 1901-1903, his wife Lady Jane Barton who was Vice President of the Sydney Women's Federation League. The Free Trade Member of the House of Representatives Sir Edward Braddon who was in office from 1901-1904. Sir Joseph Cook, Sir George Richard Dibbs and many more fathers of our country who were responsible for the founding of Federation. The English royalty played a part by opening the first Parliament in 1901; King George V the grandson of Queen Victoria officiated.[10]

arton NAA A1200/9

Reid was considered a Federation Father; he was the only Free Trade Prime Minister, only Australian to serve in all three legislatures, colonial, Commonwealth and British. He was the first Australian ministerial funeral in 1918. His wife Dame Florence Reid was among the first four recipients in 1917 of the Dame Grand Cross of the British Empire.[11]

The Federal seat of Reid took in the suburbs of Homebush, Strathfield, Lakemba, Bankstown Auburn, Guildford, Milperra, Berala, Bass Hill, Padstow, Roselands, Silverwater, Granville and part of Strathfield when the boundaries were drawn up in 1922,

In my opinion the redistribution boundaries in 2006 which are yet to be identified needs to follow the old boundaries when the seat was first formed.

The area today has a high population of NESB migrants; I feel that the area, particularly Auburn and Granville needs to be retained with areas added to it to satisfy the numbers of the redistribution. My reasoning is that these

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[9] National Archives of Australia Sir George Houstoun Reid page 110
[10] National Archives of Australia Australia's Prime Ministers - Who's Who page 3
[11] National Archives of Australia Australia's Prime Ministers Page 1

June M Bullivant OAM Granville Historical Society

areas do not match the demographics of suburbs such as Greystanes, Holroyd, Homebush Bay, Newington, Parramatta and South Wentworthville.

SIR GEORGE AND LADY REID AND FAMILY

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Federal Boundaries 1922 Map supplied by the Australian Electoral Commission

Member of Reid 1922-1931

Percy Edmund Creed Coleman
1922-1931

Percy Coleman was born on 23rd October 1892 at Surry Hills, Sydney to Thomas Coleman [bricklayer] and Ellen nee Creed.[12] The couple married at Sydney in 1877,[13] they had eight children, Thomas G 1878 died 1879, Lucy Margaret 1880 died 1931, Joseph J 1882, Ellen B 1884, Thomas W 1886, William A 1888, Florence M 1890 died 1890, and Percy who was the youngest.[14] Percy was orphaned at a very young age, he was educated in New Zealand and when he was thirteen he went to sea. At the age of sixteen he became a clerk with the Federated Seamen's Union of Australia in Sydney.[15] He was appointed to the position of general secretary in 1916.

Percy Coleman volunteered for the Australian Imperial Force on 25 February 1918[16] his service number was 16445 and his rank was private in the A.A.S.C.[17] Percy opposed conscription, but served in France and England with the Army Service Corp. On enlistment he listed his sister, Mrs Lucy Rosegger of "Tip Tree" Stanley Street, Randwick as his next of kin. His description was twenty five years four months, five feet five inches tall and one hundred fifty eight pounds, fair complexion, grey eyes, fair hair, Church of England religion and his trade was a Union Secretary. He was promoted to temporary sergeant and on the 1st July 1919 he was found at Australia House as a lecturer. He was

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[12] Australian Dictionary of Biography Coleman, Percy Edmund Creed [1892-1934]
[13] NSW Births Deaths and Marriages reference 1877/9
[14] NSW Births Deaths and Marriages
[15] Australian Dictionary of Biography Coleman, Percy Edmund Creed [1892-1934
[16] National Archives of Australia Defence Records
[17] Australian War Memorial World War 1 Nominal Rolls

June M Bullivant OAM Granville Historical Society

discharged in April 1920 and embarked on a tour of the United States of America lecturing on Australian conditions.

He returned to New South Wales he settled back into his job of secretary of the clerks' union, now the Australian Clerical Association, he retained this position until 1922. At the same time he was honorary secretary of the State Services' Confederation of New South Wales and founding secretary of the Australian Alliance of Professional, Clerical and Government Employees' Associations.[18]

In 1922 Percy was elected to the Federal Parliament as Labor member for Reid, his interests were wide and varied, he became well known as a supporter of the League of Nations. He served on the Public Works Committee from 1928-1929. He was called before a Royal Commission inquiring into allegations that certain Labor members had been offered money to vacate their seats, he overcome the bad publicity and easily held the seat of Reid in the next elections and increased his majority in 1929.[19]

Percy Coleman was not a minister in the Scullin government; however he served as Australia's representative at the International Labor Conference and the meeting of the Mandates Commission of the League of Nations in Geneva as well as the British Commonwealth Labour Conference in London. As Chairman of the Parliamentary Joint Committee on Public Accounts in 1929-1931, he conducted a review of Australia House in London, recommending the merging of the State agents-general with the Australian High Commission.[20]

Coleman was loyal to Scullin in the factional struggles that led to the collapse of the Federal Labor government and lost his seat to the Lang candidate Joseph Herbert Gander in December of 1931. Percy was appalled by the Lang dictatorship in New South Wales so he became a prominent organiser against the State Labor machine. He was a very ill man due to his war service and was forced to withdraw from the East Sydney Federal by-election in 1932. Soon after he stood for the Auburn seat against Lang and lost by a narrow margin. He was admitted to the New South Wales Bar in

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[18] Australian Dictionary of Biography Coleman, Percy Edmund Creed [1892-1934
[19] Australian Dictionary of Biography Coleman, Percy Edmund Creed [1892-1934
[20] Australian Dictionary of Biography Coleman, Percy Edmund Creed [1892-1934]

March 1933,[21]he accepted the difficult post of president of the New South Wales Federal branch of the Australian Labor Party.

He died on 25th May 1934 in a car at Concord, New South Wales from a heart attack. He was survived by his wife Elsie Allen Victoria Coleman nee Prince, whom he had married on 17th December 1921 at St James Church of England, Sydney and by his daughter.[22] He is buried in the Anglican section of Rookwood cemetery.

He funeral service was conducted at St Anne's Church of England, Strathfield on Monday morning. A notable feature was the number of representatives of ex-service organisations and Federal Labour branches. *"Australia has lost a man of unquestionable honour and integrity,"* declared Reverend W. G. Nisbett, who conducted the service.[23] *"Mr Coleman was a man who, although idealistic, was a practical statesman. He earnestly continued to do his duty in the interests of those he represented. The State is the poorer by his death.*

The chief mourners were Mrs Elsie Coleman (widow), Miss Mary Coleman (daughter), Messer's J C Coleman and W Coleman (brothers) Mr S Prince (brother-in-law) Mrs S Prince (sister) and Misses Prince (sisters-in-law). The service was attended by over three hundred people.[24]

Member for Reid

21 Australian Dictionary of Biography Coleman, Percy Edmund Creed [1892-1934
22 Australian Dictionary of Biography Coleman, Percy Edmund Creed [1892-1934
23 Cumberland and Fruitgrowers Argus May 31 1934 Page 2
24 Cumberland and Fruitgrowers Argus May 31 1934 Page 2

Joseph Herbert Gander
1931-1940

The birth of Joseph Herbert Gander was registered in Dubbo NSW in 1886,[25] to James Gander and Emma Cole who were married in 1885 at Dubbo. They appear to have had three children, Joseph Herbert, William J 1889, and Henry Sylvester 1891 died 1969 in .Kogarah New South Wales. Joseph Herbert Gander died on 22nd November 1954.[26]

James father was James and mother was Catherine Stubbles of Bathurst. They married in 1857 and had three children Julia 1859, James 1862, and Thomas in 1864.

Joseph was listed a Billiard marker and clerk his religion Roman Catholic, educated at Primary School. During the war Joseph held a position in the Department of National Service in Newtown.[27]

Joseph was listed in the Sands directory in 1932 at Newtown as an alderman for Camden Ward.[28] In the Mayor and Councillors he is listed as becoming an alderman in the Camden Ward receiving 811 votes, the other candidates were Mrs Lilian Fowler who received 914 votes and Carl Synnerdahk who received 770 votes.[29]

Joseph was elected to the House of Representatives for Reid in 1931, 1934, 1937. He was Whip of the State Labour Party in New South Wales from February 1932 to March 1936 when it merged with the Federal Labour Party.[30] He was noted in the House of Representatives as a wag and a humorous interjector.[31]

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[25] NSW Births Deaths and Marriages reference 1886-
[26] Parliamentary Library Canberra.
[27] A Biographical Register of the Commonwealth Par)
[28] . Sydney Archives Sands Directory 1932
[29] Sydney Archives Mayors and Councilors of the Nev
[30] Commonwealth Parliamentary Handbook 1938
[31] Who's Who in Australia 1938 Page 205

June M Bullivant OAM Granville Historical Society

Joseph Herbert Gander was Patron of the Lidco[ ] Bowling Club in Auburn was commenced by a Public Meeting held in Lidcombe Town Hall on 11th June 1936. The Foundation Committee was formed and consisted of The Hon J H Gander MHR and the Hon J T Lang MLA.[32]

> The Lang Group, Gander middle back row. Courtesy National Australian Archives

Gander had his office in the southern part of the Electorate having more affinity with Newton; his offices were listed in 1935 as 36 Croydon Street, Lakemba and in 1939 as 4 Sweethaven Street, Bankstown. [33]

Member for Reid

Charles Albert Aaron Morgan
27.1.1897-27.11.1967

Charles Albert Aaron Morgan was born on 27 January 1897 to Thomas Richard Morgan and Ellen Sweeney in Woonona New South Wales, Thomas and Ellen was married in Woonona in 1896. His siblings appear to be Harold D 1898, Thomas W 1900, Raymond H 1903 died 1904,and Nellie in 1904.[34]

Charles Albert Morgan married Cecily E Brady in 1920 at Wollongong.[35] He died in Sydney on 27th November 1967.[36] Charles Albert was listed as a Solicitor in his son Kevin Barry Morgan's 1921-2003 Biography.[37]

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[32] Liberty Plains A History of Auburn NSW Municipal Council of Auburn 1982 Page 129
[33] Sydney Telephone Directories 1935 and 1939
[34] NSW Births, Deaths and Marriages
[35] NSW Births, Deaths and Marriages

Frank Courtney Browne, the feisty journalist of the 1950's, Browne was the muck-raking editor of a free local rag, the Bankstown Observer. He and the paper's proprietor, Raymond Edward Fitzpatrick, were hauled before the bar of Federal Parliament in June 1955 to explain a frightful article they had published "impugning the honour" of one Charles Albert Aaron Morgan, Labor member for the Sydney electorate of Reid.

Boldly, nobly, both men refused to recant or apologise. On the motion of the Prime minister, Robert Menzies, Parliament voted them guilty of contempt and sentenced them to ninety days in prison which after appeals all the way to the Privy Council in London, they duly served. Nothing like it had happened before. Nor has it since.[38]

Charles Morgan took a prominent part in all important debates, and has always been active on behalf of constituents and local organisations. During the war he performed yeoman service for the development of the district in obtaining recognition of local industries in the war effort, which ultimately brought much prosperity to the district, both worker's and the business community, and also led to the establishment of many post-war industries. As a result, what was once practically a dead area industrially a dead area industrially has, in conjunction with Labor's great housing programme, become the Birmingham of Australia.[39]

With a majority of 19,533 over his opponent as compared with 13,064 in 1951, and an absolute majority of 13,900 as compared with 11,161 in 1951,

[36] Parliamentary Library, Canberra
[37] Parliamentary Library, Canberra
[38] Mike Carlton August 21 2004 Sydney Morning Herald
[39] Cumberland Argus and Fruit Growers Advocate May 12 1954

Mr C A Morgan, MHR, was on Friday declared re-elected by the D.R.O. for Reid (Mr. McKenna).[40]

Seven Hundred branch members and supported of Mr. C A Morgan, MHR assembled at the Lidcombe Paradance, Lidcombe, to celebrate his outstanding victory in the recent Federal election. Among the visitors were the Deputy Federal Labor Leader, Mr A A Calwell, the State President, Mr W Colbourne, and the State Speaker Mr W Lamb.[41]

Morgan in his newspaper columns criticised the Communist Party saying that they believe in and works consistently for revolution, bloody revolution through civil war, hence it realises that with Labor in power and the consequent improvements of the conditions of the people, by economic reforms and social justice, the prospects of revolution are lessened[42]

Morgan held the Eden Monaro NSW for 1925 and 1926, Reid NSW 1940, to 1946, 1949 to 1958.

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[40] Cumberland Argus and Fruit Growers Advocate June 9 1954 Page 15

[41]

[42]

Ward O'Neill collection National Library of Australia

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Member for Reid

John Thomas Lang 1946-1949

John Thomas Lang was born on 21 December 1876 in George Street, Sydney son of James Henry Lang who was a watchmaker from Edinburgh and his wife Mary, nee Whelan of Galway, Ireland. John's father became ill and the family's financial problems in the mid 1880's forced John to live with his uncle at Bairnsdale, Victoria, where he attended the local convent school.

When he returned to Sydney Jack sold newspapers and attended St Francis Marist Brothers School at Haymarket. He had a number of occupations, in 1889 he worked on a poultry farm at Smithfield; drove a horse-bus in Guildford, and served in the H J Douglass bookshop, when he was seventeen he became an office boy in an accountant's office.

On 14th March 1896 at St Francis Church Jack Lang married seventeen year old Hilda Amelia Bredt, step-daughter of W H McNamara who runs a well known socialist book shop in Castlereagh Street. (Henry Lawson the great Australian poet married Hilda's sister.) The Lang's lived with the McNamara's and their first child was born in June.[43]

John Thomas Lang

By 1899 Lang was an accountant's clerk in Mr R Harley's real estate office at Auburn. In 1901 Jack and Mr H Dawes became land agent and auctioneering partners there. Lang lived in Carnarvon Street Auburn, and from 1912 he moved to a stately house in Adderley Street, where he lived for most of his life.

Early Auburn was a semi-rural western suburb which grew slowly as a mainly working-class district with some early home ownership but not many

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[43] Australian Dictionary of Biography "Lang" Page 661

houses for people who needed to rent, the town slowly became industrialized. Lang became absorbed in the area, becoming aware of the aspirations of the middle class and to the growing radical tinge.

Lang decided that he would curb his traits of uncouthness and he did yearn for respectability. He grew into a large solid man six foot four inches tall, his black moustache spread as his hair receded, making him a formidable to men but attractive to women. His auctioneering style produced a crude but effective public speaking style, rasping voice, snarling mouth, flailing hands, sentences and phrases punctuated by long pauses. He wore the uniform of the successful Edwardian man, three piece suit, watch and chain, stiff collar, sober tie, polished boots and a large felt hat which made him look even taller.[44]

He was not a frequent church attendee but he was religious and had a good Catholic faith which he regarded this as part of his private life.
He was a serious man who seldom laughed; his rare smiles highlighted his jutting jaw. He was insecure with people, but they were attracted by his appearance of strength, he gained many followers but made no intimates and T.D. Mutch (a historian) said he would die without a friend, he was ruthless, calculating and shrewd, adept at short term judgements that fostered his own interests, the model of the self seeking house and land agent. He was determined, tireless, ambitious, suspicious, cautious and defensive, he liked walking and punctuality, and he loathed gambling and had a horror of elegant hotels.

In 1903 Jack Lang became secretary of the Granville Labor League, in 1906 he was secretary if the Nepean Federal Council of the party also of the Starr-Bowkett Ballot and Sale Society a workers co-operative which was a home-buying group. Also he was secretary of the Newington Progress Association, and also associated with St Joseph's Hospital and took part in Catholic social life. In 1907-14 he represented Newington Ward on the Auburn council serving as mayor from 1909-1911. Lang contested the State seat of Granville fighting for pre-selection with G Cann, he won the seat in 1913. Lang was a good local member; he was persistent, becoming a justice of the peace in 1914.[45]

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[44] Australian Dictionary of Biography "Lang" Page 661
[45] Australian Dictionary of Biography "Lang" Page 662

Lang was an energetic man who was completely involved in many and varied aspects of politics his exploits are described at length in the many stories written about his life, suffice to say that his political career gave him the chance to participate in the community. On 8th May 1933 Auburn Council decided to make representation toe Jack Lang to build a school at West Auburn, on 20th November 1933 the Department of Education Minister informed the Council through Lang, who was then the leader of the Opposition, that an invitation to tender had been called. On 8th September 1934 the school was opened[46]. He was patron of the Auburn District Hospital in 1928, the Granville electorate Cottage Hospital Male ward was added and opened by the Hon. J.T.Lang in 1936[47]. He opened the Auburn Town Hall on 12th July 1927 while he was Premier of NSW, and he was Vice President of the Carnavon Golf Club in 1928. Jack Lang in a letter to Auburn Council dated 25th October 1915 quoted the "*The Public Works Committee is taking under consideration the Sewerage Scheme for the Municipality of Granville, Auburn, Lidcombe, Homebush and portion of Strathfield*[48]. Lang was a great speech maker and giving speeches in Granville Park in 1930 talking to crowds of thousands.[49]

Granville Aldermen complained about Labor pasting posters on horse troughs when the seat was won by Real Estate agent, former mayor of Auburn, John Thomas Lang, who had enough working class support, and his non union middle class to give him 51.9% over John Nobbs[50]

Lang was a member of the NSW Legislative of Assembly from 6th December 1913 to 15th August 1946 a period of thirty two years and eight months, member for Granville from 6 December 1913 to 18th February to 18th February 1920. He was member for Parramatta 20th March 1920 to 7th September 1927, Member for Auburn 8th October 1927 to 15th August 1946. Colonial Secretary from 13th April 1920 to 13th April 1922. Acting Minister of Agriculture from 23rd March 1926 until 3rd September 1926, and the Secretary for Lands and Minister for Forests from 25th November 1926 to 26th May 1927. Premier from 4th November 1930 to 13th May 1932.

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[46] Liberty Plains Auburn Municipal Council Page 67
[47] Liberty Plains Auburn Municipal Council Page 86
[48] Liberty Plains Auburn Municipal Council Page 111
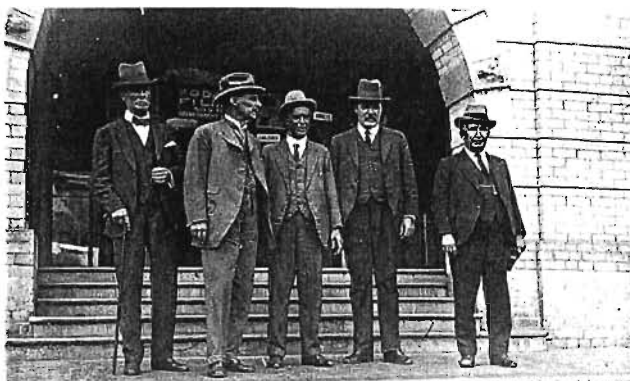[49] Granville Historical Society Resource File GR.F66
[50] Granville Historical Society Resource File GR.F66

Lang was responsible for many reforms that are still in force today, the widow's pension and Child Endowment. Jack also started the Government Insurance Office of NSW in 1926. On May 26th 1927 Lang resigned to secure an early dissolution of Parliament and was re-commissioned, however on 8th October 1927 Labor lost the election and Thomas Bavin became Premier.

Lang represented the electorate of Reid from 28th September 1946 and defeated on 10th December 1949. During World War 2 the Labor Party branches wrote to Mr J Curtin the Prime Minister of the period asking him to appoint John Thomas Lang M.L.A. to help in the war effort.[51]

Jack Lang was admitted to St Joseph's Hospital at Auburn, which he had helped to have built, by his staff at the newspaper office who felt he needed a rest. He died there on 27th September 1975, less than three months before his 99th birthday. His last words to an aide who came to visit him were, "Don't give up the fight, it must go on".[52]

His funeral was reported in the Sydney Morning Herald on 1st October 1975

John T Lang and supporters State Library NSW 7210

With prayers and solemn music and the sudden cry of a child in the stillness, Sydney said farewell yesterday to the 'Big Fella', John Thomas Lang. The people gathered around him for the last time, as long ago in days that seemed without hope, they had rallied in their thousands to his call. Men and women stood beneath the trees in Hyde Park in the shadow of St Mary's Cathedral to say farewell. It was in the Domain that Jack Lang, twice Premier of NSW stood up with his fierce face and pounding fist and cried out to the people. He became the most hated and the most loved politician in Australia.

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[51] National Australia Archives
[52] The Life of John Thomas Lang by Shirley Searle Page 51

Two thousand people packed the cathedral, including the political leaders of the day. His coffin was covered with the Australian flag and a wreath of red roses. He is survived by one son and three married daughters Eirene (Mrs Herwie), Laura (Mrs Hill), Nellie (Mrs Budge), and James Christian Lang. Hilda (Mrs Arnold), John Donald and John Keith had pre-deceased him. He is buried at the Rookwood Cemetery and his wife's ashes were late interred with him.[53]

Member for Reid

Thomas Uren
1958-1990

Tom Uren was born in Balmain, Sydney on 28th May 1921 the son of Thomas Willard Uren who was born at Tighe's Hill in Newcastle, and his grandparents came from Penzance in Cornwall, and Agnes Miller who was born in Mt Druitt, her parents came from Edinburgh and Sterling in England[54]. Tom was educated at Manly High School. Tom was a sports fanatic in his youth, he played rugby league for Manly Warringah, and he was a competitive swimmer and a boxer who challenged for the Australian heavyweight against Billy Britt before going to war.[55]

In 1939 Tom enlisted in the Royal Australian Artillery, listing his father as Thomas Willard Uren of 2 Rosemont Street, Wollongong , New South Wales[56] later serving as a Bombardier with the 2/1 Heavy Battery in Timor. From 1942 until 1945 he was a Japanese prisoner of war in Timor, Java, Singapore, on the Burma/Siam Railway in Japan[57].

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[53] The Life of John Thomas Lang by Shirley Serale Page 52
[54] From information received from Thomas Uren
[55] Green Left Weekly Online Edition a Review by Frank Noakes
[56] National Australia Archives Attestation Form of Thomas Uren
[57] National Library of Australia Papers of Tom Uren MS 6055

June M Bullivant OAM Granville Historical Society

When he returned to Australia in 1946-47 Tom worked as a professional boxer in Australia and England, but his health wasn't very good after his wartime experiences and he gave the fighting away. In 1947 married Patricia Palmer. Tom and Patricia adopted a son Michael and a daughter Heather and built a home in Guildford.[58] Mrs Patricia Stella Uren, of 2 Glen Street, Granville wife of Federal Member of Reid Mr Tom Uren, died at the Mount Carmel Hospital, Seven Hills, on 20th July 1981 aged 56[59]after a long illness. Mrs Uren was well known in Guildford and Granville and was actively involved in community work in the area. Born in Guildford, she was educated at Guildford Public School and Macarthur Girls' High School. Former Prime Minister and Federal Opposition Leader, Mr Bill Hayden, were among hundreds of mourners who attended a service for Mrs Uren at Rookwood Crematorium on Sunday 22nd July 1981.[60]

In 1949 he joined Woolworths as Store Manager in Lithgow and in 1952 joined the Lithgow Branch of the Australian Labor Party. In 1955 Uren returned to Sydney, becoming manager of the Woolworths store at Merrylands[61] and in 1958 was elected as Federal Member for Reid in the House of Representatives[62].

In 1969-72 Uren was Opposition Spokesman on Housing, Urban Affairs and the Environment. The Australian Labor Party gained government in the 1972 elections; Uren was made Minister of Urban Affairs and Regional Development and in 1973 set up the Committee of Inquiry into the National Estate which led to the establishment of the Australian Heritage Commission.[63]

Following the Labor election defeat in 1975 Uren was Deputy Leader of the Opposition and Opposition spokesman on Urban and regional Development, 1976-77. He was Opposition Spokesman on Urban and Regional Development from 1977 to 1983. In 1978 Uren was goaled for his involvement in a civil liberties rally and march in Brisbane. In 1979 he represented the Australian Parliament at the funeral of Lord Mountbatten in London.[64]

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[58] Review Pictorial Wednesday 14 December 1994
[59] A F Anderson Funeral Director Granville Granville Historical Society
[60] Parramatta Advertiser 29 July 1981
[61] Review Pictorial Wednesday 14 December 1994
[62] National Library of Australia Papers of Tom Uren MS 6055
[63] National Library of Australia Papers of Tom Uren MS 6055
[64] National Library of Australia Papers of Tom Uren MS 6055

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Throughout his Parliamentary career Tom Uren was an active member of the left wing of the Australian Labor Party. He was against the Vietnam War, conscription and nuclear testing. He is passionate about the environment and is Chairman of the Parramatta Park Trust. He worked tirelessly for the beautification of areas in Granville, Guildford and Parramatta. He was quoted as saying his objective is to change society, not to reform it. He wanted to create a more equitable, just and democratic society, he wanted to help build an environmentally sensitive, beautiful and more tolerant world.[65]

Opening of Campbell Hill Pioneer Reserve 14th December 1987
Left to right Laurie Ferguson MP Member for Granville, Alan
Hyam Lord Mayor of Parramatta, and Tom Uren MP Member for
Reid

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[65] Green Left Online Edition a Review by Frank Noakes

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Member for Reid

Laurie Donald Ferguson
1990-

Laurie Ferguson was born on 7th July 1952 son of Laurie (Jack) Ferguson former Member of the Legislative Assembly, and his wife Mary Ellen Bett. Laurie married Maureen Walsh on 26th March 1983.

Laurie has lived in the Guildford and Granville area most of his life. He was educated at St Patrick's College Strathfield and Sydney University, obtaining a Bachelor of Arts in 1977, a Batchelor of Economics in 1978 and a Master of Arts in 1982.[66]

Laurie joined the Miscellaneous Worker's Union as a state research officer before being elected to the New South Wales Parliament on 24th March 1984 resigning on 17th February 1990[67] as the Member for Granville.

He was elected to Federal Parliament in 1990 as the Member for Reid and re-elected in 1993,1996,1998,2001, and 2004. Laurie joined the ALP in 1967 and has held positions at branch and electorate council level. He has been a member of the NSW Administrative Committee and policy committees.

Laurie was re-elected to the Shadow Ministry on 22nd November 2001. He has served on a number of Standing Committees, Industry, Science and Technology, Long Term Strategies, Library and Employment, Education and Training. Laurie also served on Joint Standing Committees of Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade, Migration, Electoral Matters and Treaties.

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[66] Australian Labor Party ALP Members and Senators
[67] Parliament of Australia House of Representatives Mr Laurie Ferguson MP

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His Parliamentary Party positions were Member, Opposition Shadow Ministry 19th March 1996, Shadow Minister for Veterans' Affairs, Shadow Minister for Defence Science and Personnel, Shadow Minister for Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs, Population, Shadow Minister for Immigration and his current position is the Shadow Minister for Consumer Affairs and Population Health and Health Regulation..[68]

Laurie Ferguson is a hard working electoral representative. He is very well versed in immigration and multicultural issues because that is the nature, the demographics, of his electorate.[69] In the years that he has served the area his knowledge of the community is well documented by the people that he represents. He is known to make appointments for constituents who have concerns, he will spend many hours assisting the people, attending functions, visiting schools and opening venues in the Reid Electorate.[70]

His interest in Immigration is summed up by Alex Mustafa 22nd February 2006 in the Sydney Morning Herald Blogs, when he said, *"The doors of Laurie's office are always open to constituents and others seeking help. He has assisted countless refugee and migrant families, solving their migration problems"*.[71]

His community activity is such that he belongs to a number of local organisations, Guildford Bowling Club, Granville Returned Servicemen's League, Granville Soccer Supporters Club, Member of Guildford Leagues Club, and Merrylands Returned Serviceman's Leagues Club. He serves on many local community committees and works closely with the Local Area Commands that is in the Reid electorate.

He is dedicated to his constituents, he arranges functions to celebrate Seniors, World War 11 functions, he obtained and delivered medals to Salute the Service of men and women who served in the war. He delivers advice and brochures to the elderly and other information that keeps the electorate up to date with changes to Federal laws that will affect them.
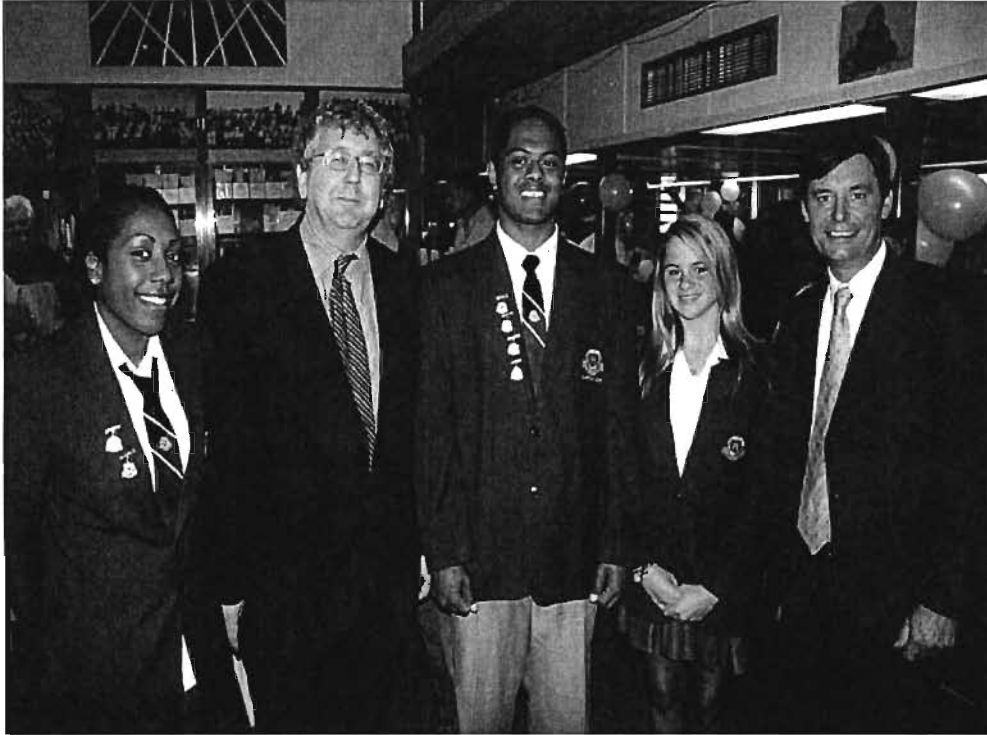
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[68] Parliament of Australia House of Representatives Mr Laurie Ferguson MP
[69] The Sydney Morning Herald Blogs: The Contrarian Sue Dean
[70] The Sydney Morning Herald Blogs: The Contrarian Sue Dean

[71] The Sydney Morning Herald Blogs: The Contrarian Alex Mustafa

Laurie Ferguson attends many of the local schools, for varied reasons, he supports the schools in the area by giving up time to visit during Education Week, he also arranges for them to take excursions to Parliament House in Canberra. He sends out Australian and Aboriginal Flags and information on request, information about the Federal Parliament, the National Anthem

music for a band, Cassette or CD, also the Australia Awards and National Symbols.

The History of Auburn

The Auburn area was once habited by the Aboriginal people as a meeting place because it was located on the border between the Darag inland group and the Eora/Dharawal coastal group. Sub-groups were known as clans and the Wangal has been commonly recognised as the inhabitants of the Auburn/Homebush Bay area.

Bennalong, one of the most famous Aborigines was a member of the Wangal, together with his wife, Barangaroo. Another member of the clan was Pemulwuy, who organised tribes to resist the white settlement of the Sydney region from 1790 until 1802. Evidence points to the use of the region as a "Law Place" for ceremonies, a market place for the exchange of goods and as the site of ritual battles.

In 2006 Auburn visitors to Auburn can still see evidence of the Aboriginal settlement in the conservation area of the Millennium Park, where there are four scar trees.

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Auburn Library State Library of NSW

Soon after the landing of Captain Arthur Phillip in Sydney Cove, small parties were sent exploring by boat along the rivers. On 5th February 1788, Captain John Hunter and Lieutenant William h as Parramatta River) as far as Homebush Bay. Captain Hunter was the first white person to set foot within the Auburn area.[72]

Ten days later the Governor with a well armed party in three boats reached Homebush Bay and went about 3 Kilometres into the country. The following day a party of explorers traced the river in a westerly direction and come to the place where Duck River enters Parramatta River. The explorers entered and explored the tributary as far as the depth of water permitted. They saw what appeared to be ducks rise out of a swamp covered in reeds. They named the river "Duck River". The ducks later were identified as Eastern Swamp Hens, but the name of Duck River was retained. The Eastern Swamp Hen featured prominently on the Council's Coat of Arms and is now part of the Auburn Council Logo.[73]

The History of Old Guildford

Aboriginal people from the Cabrogal tribe, a sub-group of the Gan have lived in this area for over 30,000 years. European settlers began in the

[72] Auburn Council About Auburn History
[73] Auburn Council About Auburn History

June M Bullivant OAM Granville Historical Society

Guildford in the early 1800's. In 1837, a retired Army officer, Lieutenant Samuel North obtained a grant of 640 acres which he named Guildford, after a town in Surrey. In 1843, Mr Whittaker purchased Samuel North's "Guildford" grant for 320 pounds and called the estate "Orchardleigh". In 1876, Guildford Railway Station opened. This caused a shift in the population from the road to the railway line. The new commercial centre became known as Guildford, the former area near the road was referred to as Old Guildford.

In 1869 the Guildford Public School was opened with 27 pupils in a slab and bark building and in 1877 it became a public school.[74]

[74] Frances Pollon The book of Sydney Suburbs, 1998
Vance George Fairfield A History of the District, Fairfield City Council 1991

June M Bullivant OAM Granville Historical Society

The History of Granville

The history of Granville dates back almost to the coming of the first settlers. It is recorded that a few days after the landing of Governor Phillip and his men on the shores of Port Jackson. The landing took place on the 26th January 1788, with the trip to Granville during the closing days of January 1788.[75]

The place that was later called Granville (1880) was covered with a dense large timbered forest. Granville was especially noted for the fine timber, which was a source of timber for many years to come. In his hand written manuscript Thomas Fowlie mentioned the "old hands" and tree stumps of enormous size, in the area, when he arrived in the early February 1886.

The trees were iron bark, blackbutts, box, stringy bark and other varieties of eucalyptus. On Cherry Tree Hill and Macarthur's Hill (now Rosehill) lovely clusters of wattle bloomed in season. On the North side of Elizabeth Farm there were very large trees that were cut down very early to build Old Parramatta. A large quantity of timber was also sent to Sydney by water.

In addition to this flora was represented, they were there until the 1870 and consisted of waratahs, flannel flower, Christmas bush and bells. Splendid species of fern were found along the upper reaches of Duck River.

Evidence of Aboriginal presence was found which dated back to pre-historic times; the area was frequented by numerous tribes. Fowlie said that he had found several stone axes along the river bank as well all over the district. It was believed that the area was a general hunting, camping and perhaps fighting ground. Governor Macquarie established a school for the education of young Aboriginals in Parramatta on 18th December 1814. Many of the young Aboriginals were given up by their parents and placed under tutors. The school was placed under the care of Mr William Shelley and ex-missionary from the island of Tonga. He built a house on the estate owned

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[75] The History of Granville by Thomas Fowlie, Granville Historical Society Page 3

by St Johns Lodge. The camping place for the tribes was Union Street and Dog-trap-road, (Woodville Road). Here they met to receive their yearly supply of blankets. The final trip to the old camp site was when King Billy with a dozen followers mostly females and children visited the area in 1893.[76]

Granville, or in the early days it was called Parramatta Junction, was the route to the west, it was necessary to build a bridge across Duck Creek, the first structures were described by William Charles Wentworth as "being formed from trees fallen into place into convenient places, and covered with short lighter logs laid cross-wise and then the branches and layer of soil on the top". The bridge of 1797 was a wooden structure, and is recorded to have been the first properly constructed bridge in Australia. It was erected during Governor Hunter's time. In the Australian 27th February 1828 we read that "the Duck River Bridge was in a deplorable condition and unsafe to cross."[77] Because of the traffic to Parramatta and Evan, the industry needs it was necessary to build a more secure bridge this was realised in 1914 when a iron and cement bridge was erected.

Granville during the time of discovery and the time of the arrival of the first train in 1855 was mainly sparsely scattered farms, it was only when the train arrived that the town started to come alive. Hudson Brothers one of the big manufactures from Sydney decided to relocate and send for engineers from Scotland to work in their factory. Hudson Brothers built homes for the workers, and the Railway provided their workers with accommodation. These workers then required schools, churches, and local government. With many industries setting up in the area, Brunton's Flour Mill, Marshes Tannery, Goodlett and Smith (brick and tile) and numerous other businesses, the area was well ready for subdivision.

Granville was the centre of industry; it was called Little Glasgow because of the number of Scottish immigrants who came to work in the factories. They played soccer in their spare time, and established the first soccer team. There were bushrangers who hid on Sydney Road and held up the travellers. The crime is listed in the Police Gazette's, of people who were held up.

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[76] The History of Granville by Thomas Fowlie Granville Historical Society Page 5
[77] The History of Granville by Thomas Fowlie Granville Historical Society Page 14

During the period between 1900 and 2006 Granville has been put on the map by the Anzac Day Floods on 25th April 1974 and the Granville Train Disaster of 18th January 1977 when 83 people lost their lives. The swimming centre in Granville was where most of the champion swimmers trained. Today Granville has a new multi million dollar heated one of the best in New South Wales. The area has been saturated in the past six to ten years by development of flats; the housing commission is in the process of building a large area of flats to replace the ageing homes built mainly of fibro, that were put into service after the second world war. Some of the original houses remain in pockets of the suburb, although when Granville Municipal Council amalgamated with Parramatta City Council in 1945, the area has played Cinderella to the Parramatta central business district.

The area is a high transient area with immigrants from all parts of the world. Some of the early migrants were people from China who had market gardens at South Granville, Lebanese who worked their fruit shops and haberdashery and become the makeup of the early part of the 1940s. In 2006 the immigrants come from countries in the Pacific Islands, New Zealand, China, Vietnam, Malaysia, Lebanon, Africa, and other minor countries. This wide diversity has seen the introduction of food stores to cater for the specialised needs of the community.

The area has retained some industry although the old ones have gone, the Tabcorp has their phone betting and there are moves to transfer their Victorian base to Granville, the International Mail Exchange, Mitsubishi, Merck Sharpe and Dohme, Granville College of TAFE, on of the largest facilities in the Sydney Metropolitan area. The Union movement made their headquarters in the Granville area since 1985, the Australian Manufacturers Workers Union, the National Union of Works and the Australian Workers Union Greater NSW, all based in the same proximity north of the railway line.

Granville has many small businesses, including welfare services, Rosehill Area Command has their headquarters in Hutchinson Street, and the Churches are well represented, including catering for the many worshippers from other faiths and cultures. The majority of citizens are law abiding people; the odd crime spree is usually caused by people who enter the suburb via the railway. The industrial area around Wentworth Street houses Alcan, Shell Refinery and other business, as well as a number of brothels.

June M Bullivant OAM Granville Historical Society

Aboriginal History of Homebush

In 2006 situated on the traditional lands of the Wann clan, known as the Wanngal.is the current Sydney Olympic Park. The lands of the Wanngal stretched along the southern shore of the Parramatta River between Cockle Bal (Cadigal land) and Rose Hill (Burramattagal land). Across the river was the Wallumetta-gal.

The Wanngal and their people lived in the Homebush Bay area for thousands of years. Physical evidence of the Aboriginal presence in the Homebush Bay area by Aboriginal people has been found in the form of stone artefacts located at the site.

In addition, several scarred trees have been found within the Woodlands. Aboriginal shell middens 9campsites where shellfish and other foods were consumed) were known to have lined Homebush Bay and the Parramatta River but were destroyed in the limekilns in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries as well as the alterations to the shoreline.

The rivers and creeks in the area provided the Aboriginal communities with food, clothing and resources necessary to live. The water also provided a means to travel distances without walking. Aboriginal people were still living in the area even after the lands were granted to the European settlers.[78]

Stone Axe found in the Wanngal Woodland February 2003

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[78] Sydney Olympic Park Aboriginal History

June M Bullivant OAM Granville Historic

The Europeans and the Aboriginals had conflicts, the history of this was documented for the Homebush Bay area throughout the 1790s. In the early 1800s Aboriginal people were working for and supplying fish to the Blaxlands on their Newington property, but by the 1850s the resources became scarce.

Cuts made with an axe on a tree in Wanngal Woodland

The Colonial History of Homebush

A Scouting party had recorded "The Flats", the extensive tidal wetlands at Homebush Bay, within ten days of the arrival of the first fleet in Australia. From 1788 until 1831 blocks ranging from 100 to 10,000 acres were given out from the lands of the Wanngal Clan's. Little marks were made of the County of Cumberland maps, with names of owners and number of acres displayed. Thomas Laycock was the first recipient of a land grant in the Bay area. He acquired 40 hectares in 1794 and a further 40 hectares in 1795. By 1803, Laycock's estate totalled 318 hectares and was name Home Bush.[79]

William Pritchard, Henry Waterhouse (Waterhouse Farm), John Shortland (Shortland Farm), Isaac Archer, and Samuel Haslam all received land grants. Most of the estates in Homebush during the latter part of the eighteenth century were used for agricultural purposes, but by the early 1800s' most of the land came under the ownership of the Blaxland's and the Wentworth's.[80]

[79] Sydney Olympic Park Colonial History
[80] Sydney Olympic Park Colonial History

June M Bullivant OAM Granville Historical Society

In 1807 John Blaxland acquired 520 hectares reserving the grants of Waterhouse, Shortland, Archer and Haslam. He named the estate Newington after his family home in Kent. Blaxland established a series of salt pans on the banks of the Parramatta River and by 1827, was producing 8 tons of salt each week for the Sydney market. Blaxland also established a tweed mill, limekiln and flourmill. Newington House was completed in 1832 and St Augustine's Chapel in 1838.

D'Arcy Wentworth was granted 370 hectares, including Thomas Laycock's estate in 1810. In 1811, he established a horse stud and subsequently became one of the most noted breeders in the colony. In 1819, Wentworth acquired more land so that his estate comprised 394 hectares. It was at this time that he constructed Homebush House, near the corner of Figtree Drive and Australia Avenue.[81]

In 1825 a horseracing track was developed on the estate, and between 1841 and 1860 the track was used as the headquarters of the Australian Jockey Club. D'Arcy died in 1827 and left his property to his son Charles Wentworth. The property was worked by tenants throughout the ownership of Charles Wentworth. In 1881 the estate consisted of 440 hectares. In 1883 Fitzwilliam Wentworth son of Charles registered a residential subdivision to be called the Wentworth Estate.

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[81] Sydney Olympic Park Colonial History

June M Bullivant OAM Granville Historical Society