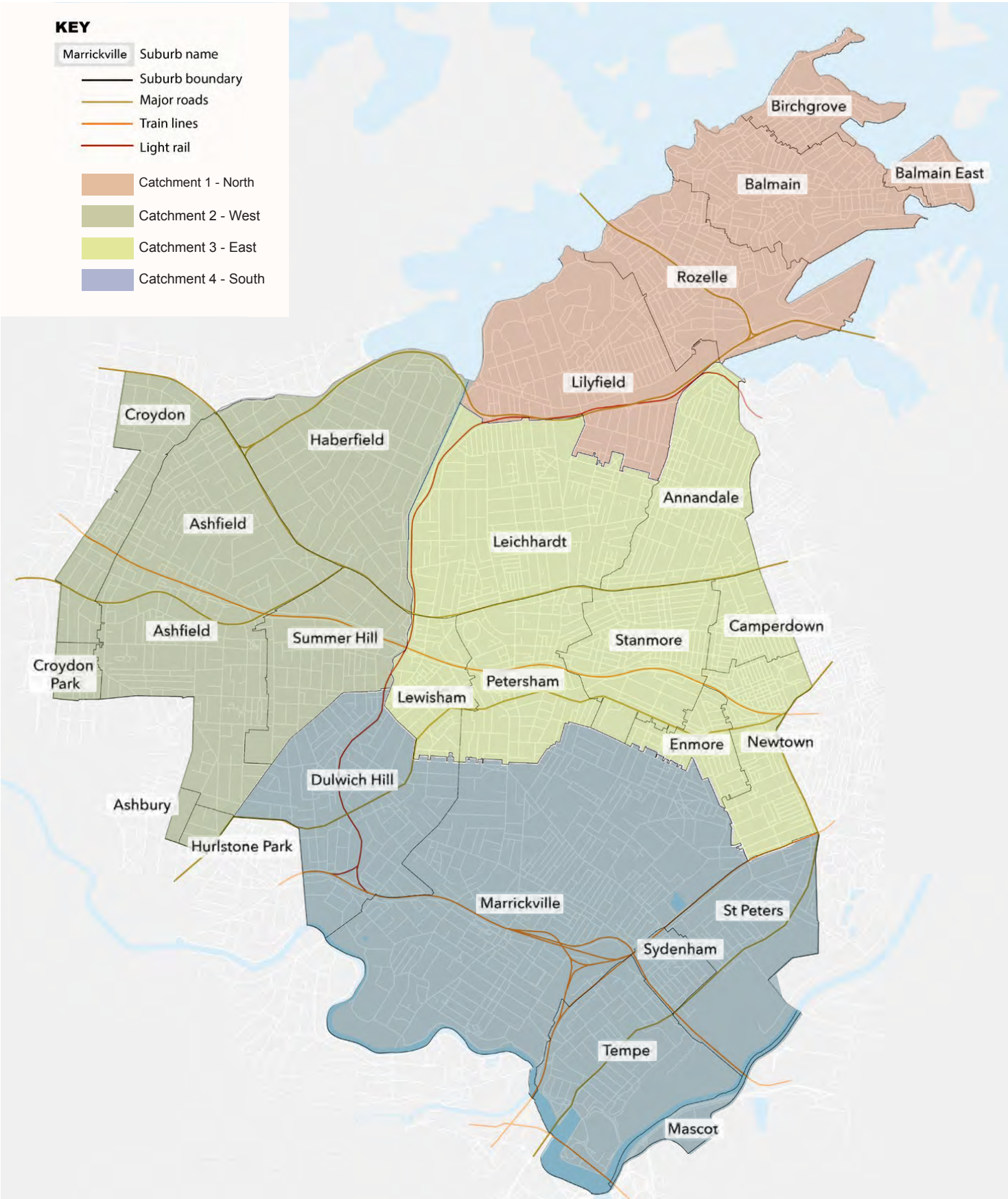




Looking beyond the historical caretaker's cottage towards Sydney Harbour. Photography by Welsh + Major.



Inner West Council area and suburbs. Recreation Needs Study - A Healthier Inner West.

Demographics

Overview

This section outlines the current community profile of Balmain using data from the 2021 ABS Census from Profile i.d. as well as future projections outlined in Recreation Needs Study - A Healthier Inner West, Updated 2021 (Cred Consulting). This study breaks down the Inner West area into 4 catchment areas. Balmain falls into catchment 1.

The population of Balmain and the area within its catchment is characterised by a concentration of affluent residents with some of the LGA's highest levels of household income and higher education. This catchment also has a higher proportion of babies, pre-schoolers and school children. This catchment has the lowest forecast residential population growth compared to the other catchments.

Population growth

In 2021, the estimated resident population of the Inner West was 183 772 people. The population decreased by 7422 people or 3.8% between 2016 and 2021. The growth rate of Greater Sydney during this period was 7.8%.

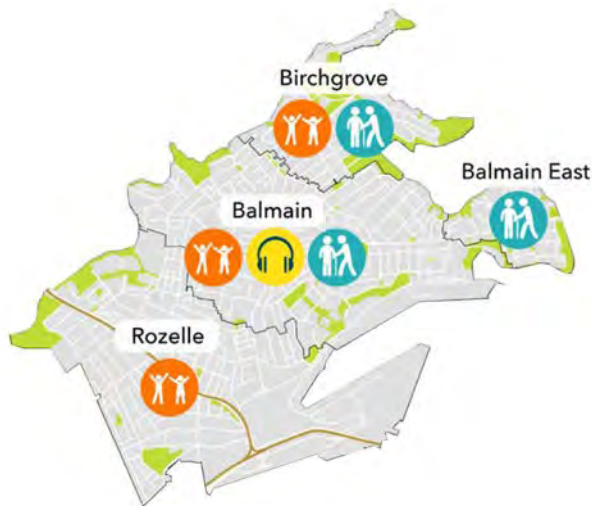
Elkington Park is located on the northern shoreline of Balmain, approximately 1km north of Balmain CBD. Balmain experienced a decline in population, with its population decreasing by 544 people (2.8%) between 2016 and 2021.

Despite this short term dip, Inner West Council estimates significant population growth by 2036.

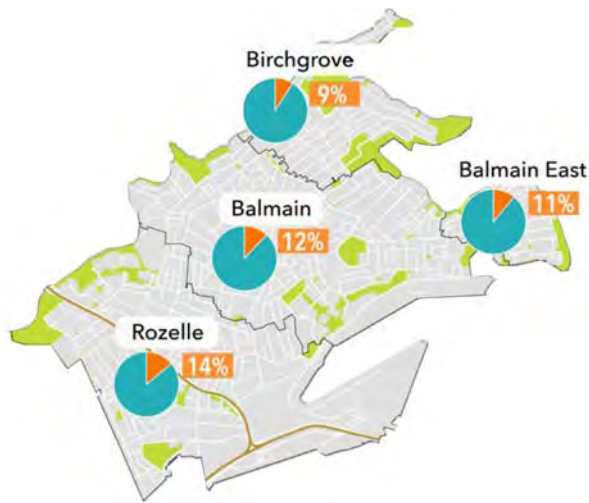
Open space provision

The Inner West has an estimated 321.6 hectares of open space which equates to 9.1% of the total land area.

In 2016 the provision of open space per person was 16.4m². Catchment 1 has the highest provision of open space per person within the LGA. In 2016 Catchment 1 had a provision of open space per person of 34.4 m² with an estimated 32.5m² by 2036.



01 Balmain - Age + disability profile.
Recreation Needs study - A Healthier Inner West.



02 Balmain - Cultural profile.
Recreation Needs study - A Healthier Inner West.



03 Balmain - Density, income + housing profile.
Recreation Needs study - A Healthier Inner West.

KEY

Icons show suburbs with a proportion above the LGA average or high number of:

- Babies and children (0 - 12yrs) (over 12.9% or over 1,000 people)
- Young people (12 - 24yrs) (over 13.1% or over 1,000 people)
- Older people (65yrs +) (over 12.2% or over 1,000 people)
- People with disability (over 4.5% or over 500 people)

KEY

- % speaking English at home
- % speaking a language other than English at home
- >1.5 % Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population

Languages spoken by more than 2% of the population:

- Arabic
- Cantonese
- Greek
- Italian
- Macedonian
- Mandarin
- Nepali
- Portuguese
- Spanish
- Tagalog
- Vietnamese

*In Leichhardt, while the proportion of people speaking a language other than English at home is relatively low, the number of speakers is very high: >2,000

KEY

Median weekly household income:

- \$1,500 - \$1,749
- \$1,750 - \$1,999
- \$2,000 - \$2,499
- \$2,500 - \$2,999
- > \$3,000

% of households with cars:

- Under 75%
- 75% - 80%
- 80% - 85%
- 85% - 90%
- Over 90%

Dominant dwelling type:

- Low density
- Medium density
- High density

Demographics

Age + disability profile

Spaces that are inclusive of all age groups, accessible and flexible should be prioritised to cater for current and future population needs.

Balmain has an above average proportion of Babies and children (0-12yrs), young People (12-24yrs) and Older people (65+yrs).

Cultural Profile

Balmain has a below average population of people who speak a non-English language at home. In 2016, 28.4% of the population of the LGA spoke a non-English language, a lower proportion compared with 35.8% for Greater Sydney. The most common languages spoken at home were:

- Chinese languages (Mandarin: 3.6%, Cantonese: 1.9%)
- Greek (2.9%)
- Italian (2.8%)
- Vietnamese (2.0%)

There is not one particular non-English language group which represents more than 2% of the population in Balmain or its neighbouring suburbs.

Density, income + housing profile

Balmain and its neighbouring suburbs are dominated by medium density dwellings.

The peninsula represents the four suburbs of highest median weekly household income. In Balmain the average household income is between \$2,500 - \$2,999. The majority of households in Balmain + surrounding suburbs also own at least one car. Between 85-90% of Balmain households have a car.



A Brief Historic Overview

First Nations History

Prior to European colonisation, the Balmain area was inhabited by the Wangal band of the Dharug (Eora) language group. The territory of the Wangal people extends along the southern shore of the Parramatta River to Parramatta. Suburbs close to the city such as Glebe are also the home of the Gadigal and Wangal ancestors. The surrounding bushland was rich in plant, bird and animal life with fish and rock oysters apleny in the bays. Fish and shellfish were staples in the in the diet of the local Aboriginal people. Sixteen midden sites have been identified within Leichhardt with four accessible to the public. The middens are dated at approximately 500 years old, and are recognised as significant by the Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council and archaeologists.

Balmain is known as Baludarri or Leather Jacket Fish in English

The Balmain area is said to have been a favourite fishing spot for aborigines. The shoreline would have been covered with cockles and mussels.[6 p14] There is no physical evidence remaining however, of aboriginal occupation of the park or immediate area. (Schwager Brooks and Partners 1993)

Post European Settlement

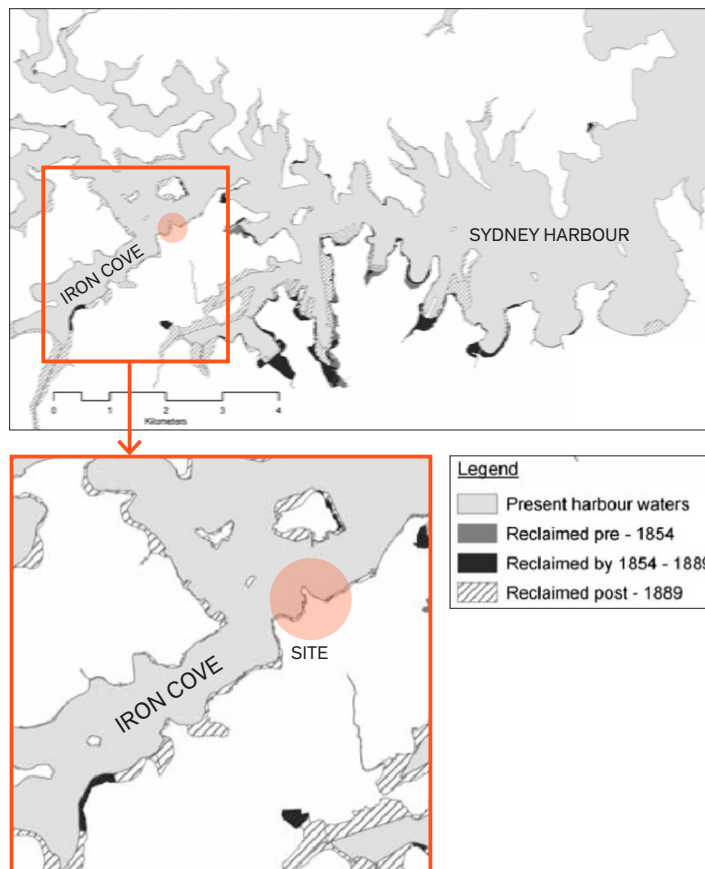
During the year 1800, 550 acres of land was granted to William Balmain. This area covered what is today the suburbs of Balmain and Rozelle. This grant was sold to William Gilchrist

in 1801 and subsequently lots within Balmain were auctioned off. The first release was noted as being at Peacock Point in 1836. (Mc Donald et al 1990) Although no direct evidence was found, it is likely that the area around Elkington Park would have been part of a release in 1852. It is likely that E.W. Cameron purchased land in the area at this time. A plan of Balmain from 1882 (fig. 2.5) shows an area of the site as Public Reserve. This plan does not however include White Horse Point or the area below Fitzroy Avenue within the Public Reserve boundary.

Colourful Story or Fact?

Anecdotal history states that White Horse Point got its name after a prisoner from the jail on Cockatoo Island escaped and swam to the point. It was at this location where his female companion was waiting for him with a white horse which he used for his escape (allegedly to the New England area).

The prisoner is often said to have been the notorious Frederick Ward, aka the bushranger "Captain Thunderbolt", who allegedly escaped from Cockatoo Island gaol in September 1863, swam ashore near the point and escaped on a horse provided by his lady.



Birch, Gavin & Murray, Orla & Johnson, Ian. (2009). Reclamation in Sydney Estuary, 1788–2002. *Australian Geographer*. 40. 347-368. 10.1080/00049180903127788.

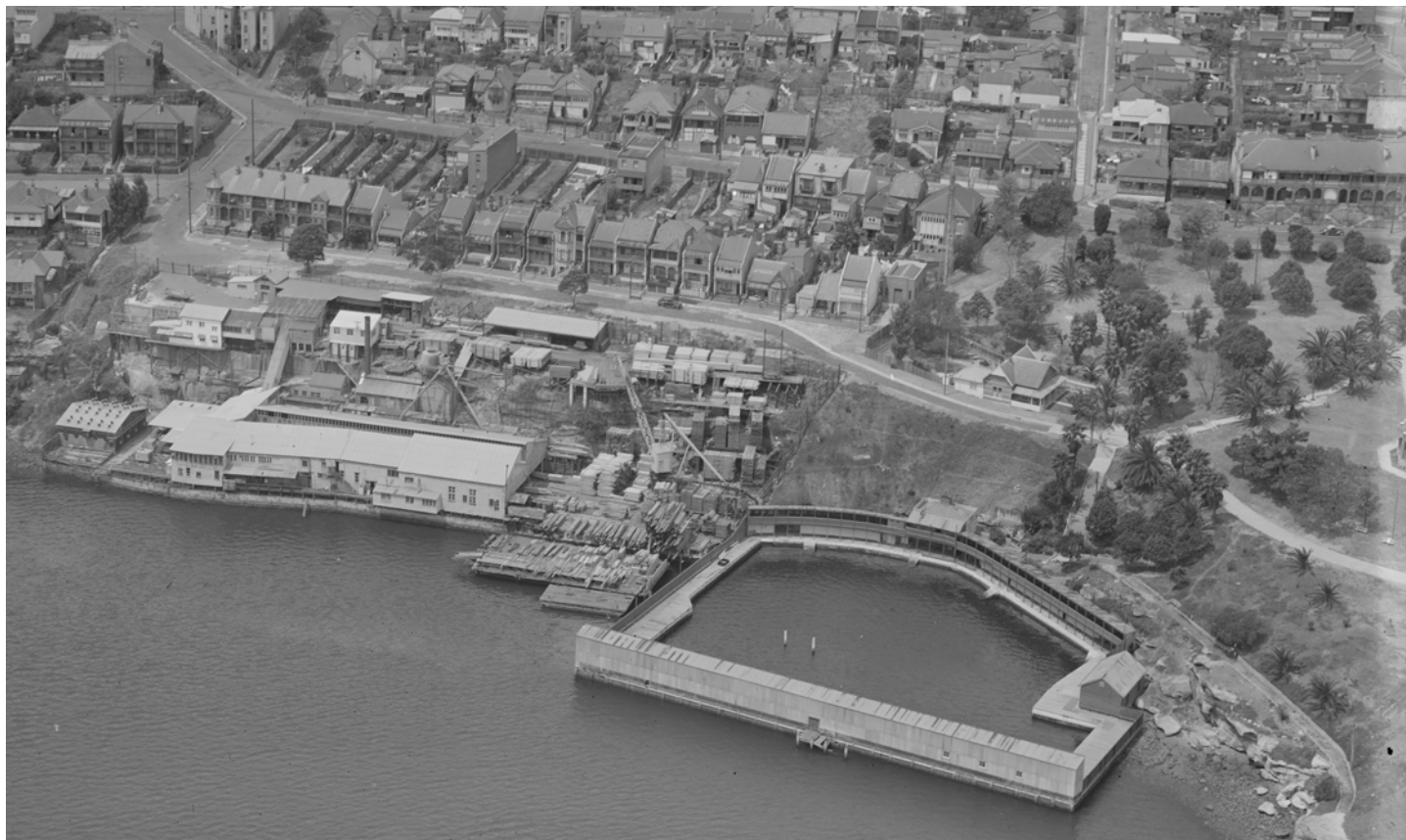
The Formation of Elkington Park and The Dawn Fraser Baths

Elkington Park is a direct result of the request for a public swimming pool by local residents. In May 1880 four acres of land 'near White Horse Point' were purchased by the then Balmain Council from E.W. Cameron. During this time there was rapidly increasing popularity in recreational bathing and the Balmain area required suitable accommodation to construct a tidal bath. Other tidal baths in Sydney Harbour included Rushcutters Bay, The Domain and Lavender Bay. None of these baths now remain.

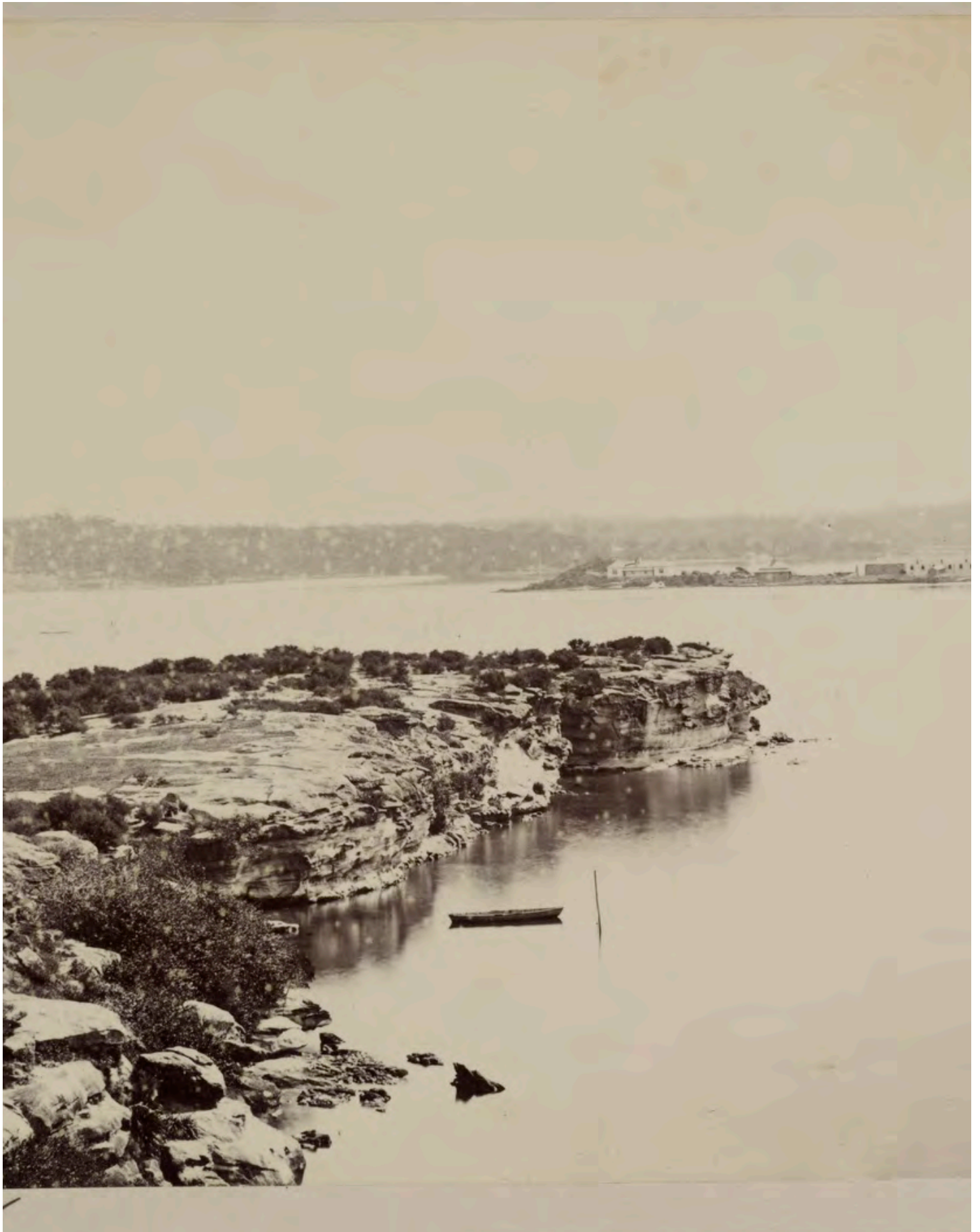
The tidal pool was originally named White Horse Baths, taking its name from the nearby point. This was renamed Elkington Park Baths in November 1883 after Mayor, Alderman Elkington who originally worked to secure the land from the Cameron Estate. In 1968 the pool was again renamed as The Dawn Fraser Baths.



View of White Horse Point (on the right) with Snapper and Spectacle Islands in the background. Balmain Rowers Club (with flag) and Balmain Working Mens Rowing Clubs can also be seen. C1900. Image source: TBC



Aerial view c 1945, showing the Elkhington Park Baths, with Caretakers cottage above. Image source: TBC



White Horse Point, Spectacle Island, C1880
Image source: From the collections of the State Library of NSW
[a1939026 / PXA 420/12a] (Mitchell Library)



Neighbourhood Context

Local Character

Elkington Park + Fitzroy Ave Reserve lies on the northern coastline of Balmain at the mouth of Iron Cove, stretching along 500m of coastline. The site is approximately 5 minutes walk from Darling Street and 10 minutes walk from Balmain town centre.

To the south, the park is bound by White Street, Glassop Street and Fitzroy Ave to the south east. Along these streets, residential dwellings range from single storey houses to post-war multi-storey apartments. Commonly amongst these are rows of two-storey terrace houses, a number of which are heritage listed items.

To the west of Elkington Park is the Balmain Rowing Club and the Corleone Marina. The boats moored here contribute to the scenic views north-west and north-east. Through the boats, the White Horse Lookout offers spectacular views to Cockatoo Island and the northern shore of the harbour.

The recently reopened, Dawn Fraser Baths (state heritage listed) is an ocean pool to the north side of the park. Access to the baths is provided through the park.

Major Roads

Darling Street is the arterial road running through Balmain from Rozelle to Balmain East.

Public Transport:

The local area is not serviced by train or light rail. Bus services down Darling Street have stops within a five minute walking distance to the site.

These include:

- Bus Route 433, with stops from Balmain to City
- BusRoute 445, with stops from Balmain to Campsie via Leichhardt

The 441 Bus Route, with stops from Birchgrove to City Art Gallery, stops within a 10 minute walk of the park along Rowntree St.

Cycle Routes

The local area is generally lacking a designated cycle network. Glassop street, and a number of connecting streets are considered bike friendly streets. A continuous cycle path along the north coast of Balmain is identified as a 'missing route' in the Future Transport - Strategic Cycling Network from "Going Places - An Integrated Transport Strategy for Inner West".

Local Parklands

The Water Street Reserve to the east and Paringa Reserve, west, are both within 5 minutes walking distance of Elkington Park.

Due to the large number of privately owned waterfront houses, Balmain does not have a continuous coastal path. Instead, access to nearby waterfront parks is convoluted and requires users to walk through neighbouring streets.

Local Events

The lookout at White Horse Point and the historically significant rotunda are commonly hired spaces for small private events including weddings. The park has also hosted larger community events, such as Back To Balmain, which ran annually until recently.



Zone Identification + Summary

Zone Definition

The site has been separated into two zones for the purpose of clarifying a detailed site analysis. The zones have been selected based on an assessment of the character and use of different areas within the park, while taking into account real and perceived boundaries. The border between the two zones should be treated as blurred rather than absolute and is indicated as dotted lines for graphic clarity.

Zone 1 - Elkington Park

Zone 1 captures White Horse Point and the historical precinct of the park. It includes street frontage onto White + Glassop Streets as well as 300m of coastline. The vacant care-takers cottage, rotunda, playground, amenities and the main point of entry to the Dawn Fraser Baths are included in this zone.

Zone 2 - Fitzroy Ave Reserve

Zone 2 sits at the north-eastern corner of the park, and is bound by Fitzroy Avenue to the south. This area is known as Fitzroy Avenue Reserve and includes, open green spaces, the jetty, a sandstone foreshore, access to a small harbour beach, rear access to Dawn Fraser Baths and car parking.



Zone 1 - View north along date palms



Zone 2 - View west along stone foreshore



Zone 1 - Existing Conditions

Overview

Zone 1 encapsulates the historical precinct of Elkington Park to the south and White Horse Point to the north west. Paths of access to the Balmain Rowing Club and Dawn Fraser Baths fall into this zone. 300m of coastline, made up of caves, small beaches and cliffs create the northern boundary. It is bound by White Street to the south west and Glassop Street to the south east.

Character

Zone 1 has two distinct characters. To the north, views and vantage points are the hero. The lookout, known as White Horse Point, is used for weddings and casual gatherings alike, centred around the exceptional views to Cockatoo Island (Wareamah) and the harbour beyond. This area is surrounded by coastline with various conditions including cliff faces, caves and beaches. This area is quite flat in contrast to the rest of the site, hence people and dogs congregate here. The park slopes up to the south, with Glassop St running along the highest point. This area of the park is framed by large established fig trees which create a canopy over the park. Within this area are some historically significant buildings/structures which sit alongside historical styles of planting. Openings in tree cover create sunny grassed areas which are perfect for picnics and sheltered from winds.

Activity

Zone 1 is utilised by all types of park users. The sloped topography + weaving pathway through White Horse Point provide a track for those walking + running through the park for exercise. This path connects to the rest of the park through the shaded walking track. The flat area of open space central to Zone 1 is commonly used for dogs to run off leash. This area is the most opportune for dogs due to its flatness. The playground area is frequently used by children and families.

Furniture

Park furniture throughout this zone is typically delapidated and unsafe. Painted timber benches show signs of wear with slats broken from their fixing and splintering. There are approximately 14 of these benches, predominantly focused around the centre of the zone. There is a general lack of furniture at White Horse Point.

There are four bin locations within this zone. No fixed bins are found in the park. Two general waste wheelie bins service White Horse Point. A concrete platform connected to the footpath houses 6 bins in the centre of the zone alongside the playground. Two bins are located near the main entry at the corner of White + Glassop Street.

Of all bin locations, only one offered recycling bins. The fourth bin location is along the small stretch of road from which the staircase to Dawn Fraser leads from.

Lighting

General lighting within the park has been partially upgraded. Lighting generally follows the main pathways, allowing areas beyond these to remain dark to the benefit of local wildlife.

Signage & Wayfinding

Signage throughout the zone is haphazard and at times unclear, and generally in poor condition. At the corner of White and Glassop St is the main park sign. This sign is in reasonable condition but is showing signs of wear. Attached to this sign is an out of date information sign regarding bookings for park events. This attached sign references Liechhardt Council.

Also at the corner entrance to the park is a companion animal on/off leash sign. This sign is out of date, with reference to Liechhardt Council. Font indicating specific times is very small and the placement of the sign is too high. A map indicates areas of on/off leash.

This same companion animal sign, along with another relating to what is and isn't permitted within the park, is located at the east entry from Glassop St. These two signs are of different styles and both reference Liechhardt Council.

The companion animal sign is located in three other locations in this zone. It is fixed to a wooden street post at the northern Entry on White St, near the informal entry opposite Tilba Ave and near the bins in the centre of zone 1.

Two warning signs are placed at White Horse Point to indicate the cliff. These are in good condition, but not reflective of any style related to signage throughout the park.

Alongside the caretakers cottage and connecting road to Fitzroy Ave, new signage to indicate the Dawn Fraser Baths is evident. These new signs are of high quality, use new council branding and include clear wayfinding. These signs should be considered in the development of a consistent signage language for the park.

Tree Cover

Varying species of large trees are established in Zone 1. Several Moreton Bay Fig trees provide great spread of shade over the site. Flanking the boundary along Glassop + White Street, Date Palm



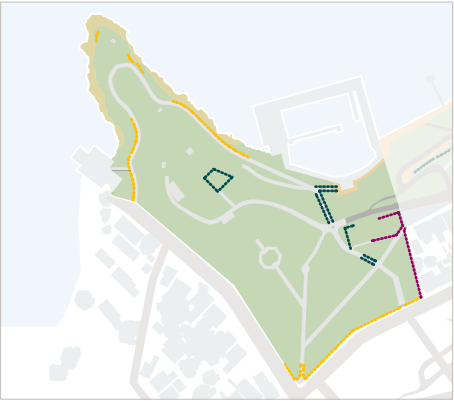
Tree Cover & Understorey Planting



Existing Structures + Facilities



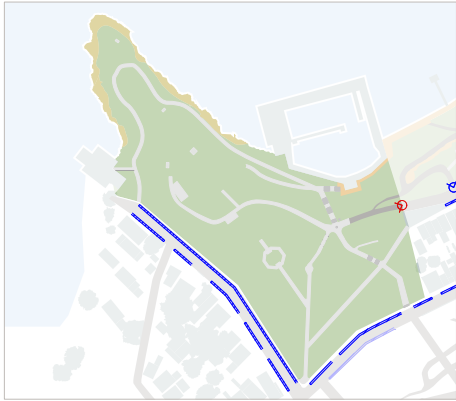
Lighting



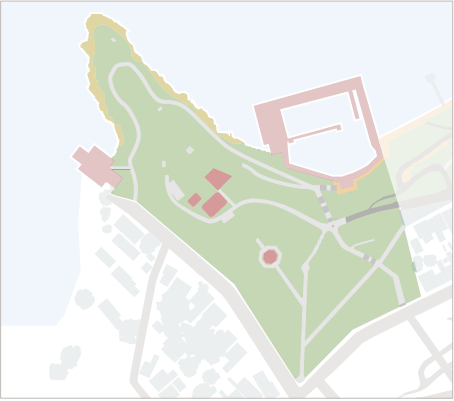
Fence + Enclosure



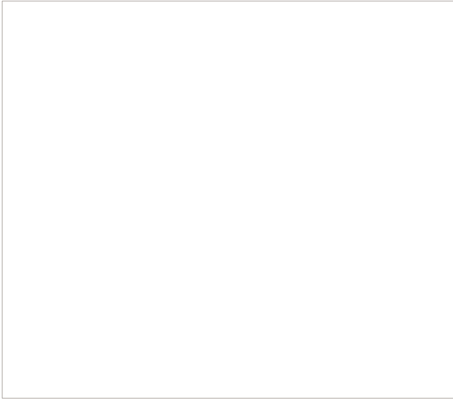
Pedestrian Access Points & Existing Pathways



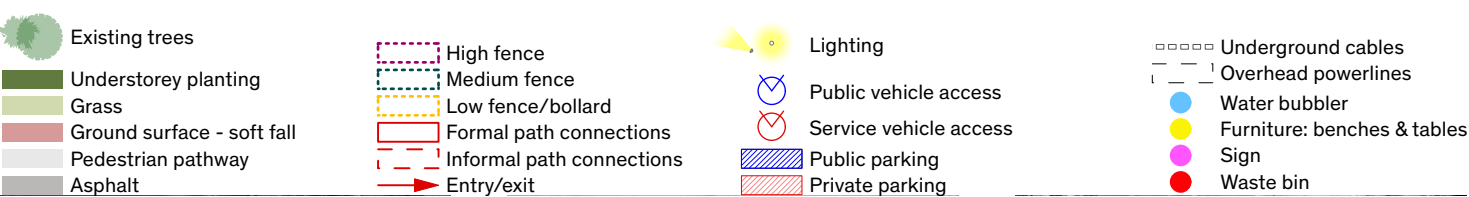
Vehicular Access Points, Roads and Carparking



Sports + Recreation Grounds



Gradient (Approximate)



and Eucalyptus trees provide dense shading and tree corridors for park users.

Following the path to Dawn Fraser Baths, thick tree cover, from both planted and self-sown trees, provide shade and enclosure which harbours the dense undergrowth in this area.

An established Moreton Bay Fig tree crowns White Horse Point Lookout.

Planting

The north eastern area of zone 1 is rich with understory planting which provides significant bio-diversity as well as privacy to the baths. These areas require constant maintenance from weeds and aggressive plant species which threaten the health of planting and trees.

Small instances of understory planted are carried throughout the zone. Alongside the caretakers cottage to the south is a substantial area of dense planting.

Formal hedging and the rose gardens add to the historical planting scheme associated with the park entry and rotunda.

The area lacks understory planting to the south and following the boundary along white street.

Fauna Linkages

The park is bound by residential properties on all sides, except the coastline. Fauna linkages within the park area extensive due the richness of understory planting and wide spread of established trees. Undisrupted coastlines supports links to the water.

Ground Cover & Surfaces

Grass is patchy and unattractive around the base of large trees where areas are heavily shaded. This is observed around the playground area and along the Glassop St boundary.

Various groundcovers make up the playground area. Astro Truf is used in the enclosed playground area and around swings. Small areas of softfall are used at the base of swings. Mulch is used around the climbing play equipment. All playground ground covers are in poor condition and inconsistent.

Services & Drainage

Water pooling at White Horse Point was observed. The varying topography of the site provides pockets which catch and hold run off from the hill. It is presumed that tire marks from services vehicles contribute to these slumps which hold water.

Boundary Conditions

Along Glassop St, a low sandstone fence follows the boundary and acts as a retaining wall to the raised footpath above. Along White St, the site is bound by the road, with no footpath between the park and the road. Separation here is created by a subtle slope from the park down to the road, as well as dense tree cover

which filters out the houses opposite.

The northern boundary of zone 1 is defined by the natural edge of the point which leads to the water. The condition varies along White Horse Point, from small beaches + caves to steep cliff faces up to 8m above the water level. Where the understory planting dominates along the northern boundary, a pathway through the scrub defines the boundary for park users and creates privacy to the baths. Along the eastern boundary, two residential dwellings share a side boundary with the park. To the north east, the park connects to Zone 2.

Pedestrian / Cyclist Access + Existing Pathways

Access and pathways in zone 1 are defined by the steep and varying topography. As a result, pathways are broken by steps and hence are not very user friendly. There are 3 park entry points from the street into zone 1. The corner entry at White + Glassop St is the only accessible entry from the street.

Vehicular Access Points, Roads and Car Parking

There is a narrow road into zone 1 which extends from Fitzroy Ave for service vehicles only. There is a boom gate and signage to prohibit the public from driving into the zone. This road is in good condition with a formed concrete kerb. There is no on site parking, however both Glassop + White St offer street parking on both sides of the road.

Existing Structures and Heritage Significance

To the north of zone 1, alongside the playground, is a small amenities block. This structure is in poor condition and unpleasant to use. It's location poses safety concerns at night. The facilities are partially open to the outdoors. A large mural decorates the block facing the park.

In centre of zone 1 is the historical rotunda. This brick, octagonal structure is core to the parks history. The brickwork + structure is in good condition, however some of finishes require upgrading.

To the east of zone 1 is the vacant caretakers cottage. Currently unused, the brick cottage is in good condition. A late 20th century extension is in lesser condition and should be considered for removal pending future use of the cottage.



01



02



03



04



05



06



07



08



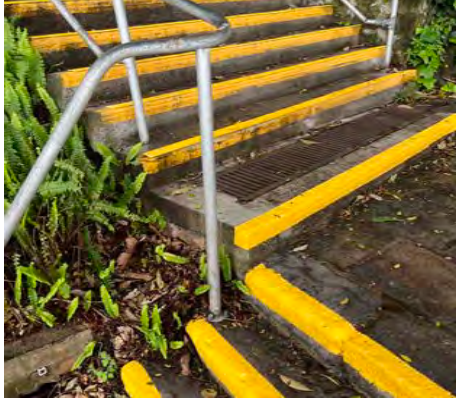
09



10



11



12

01. Vacant Caretaker's Cottage / 02. Rotunda / 03. Historical rose garden / 04. Palm tree grove / 05. Entrance garden + park sign / 06. Established Fig trees / 07. Fenced playground / 08. Open playground / 09. Amenities Block / 10. Natural cliff face + caves / 11. White Horse Lookout + furniture / 12. Staircase to Dawn Fraser Baths

Zone 1 - Constraints + Opportunities

Based on the Analysis set out over the previous pages, the following opportunities present themselves within Zone 1.

There are opportunities to:

- Upgrade + maintain the historically significant rotunda.
- Investigate alternative uses for the vacant care-takers cottage, including, but not exclusive to, relocated amenities, community space or cafe. Any future use which is determined by Council should be reflective of the wider community needs and maximise the use and enjoyment of the cottage by the wider community. Any proposed use should also be ancillary to the purpose use and enjoyment of the park as a whole. Improve signage consistency throughout the zone.
- Establish a design for new signage that communicates the civic and historic character of the park.
- Install a park map at well selected locations. The park map should include a tactile section + section written in language of First Nations group. Clearly identify park assets and public toilet locations.
- Investigate diverse play equipment which caters to more age groups, including teenagers. Less specific nature play items should be considered.
- Upgrade park furniture + bubblers.
- Improve circulation by investigating new path connections.
- Investigate upgrades to existing amenities block.
- Investigate solutions to rainwater runoff to reduce pooling of water at White Horse Point.
- Establish new understorey planting to selected areas along the southern boundaries.
- Futureproof existing shade + shelter through planting of new trees.
- Improve access to Dawn Fraser Baths



Zone 2 - Existing Conditions

Overview

The area in Zone 2 is named the Fitzroy Ave Reserve. It is connected to the north east corner of zone 1 by a small road and two pathways. Zone 2 is bound by Fitzroy Avenue to the south and the harbour to the north, with a neighbouring dwelling to the northeast boundary. The zone is smaller in comparison to zone 1, but rich in character and conditions.

Character

Zone 2 has a calm and private character. The area is divided by a steep sandstone escarpment which separates the zone into two narrow areas at very different heights. The upper strip of land offers views out to the northern shore and harbour. This area is a popular picnic spot with park furniture to cater to the needs of picnic goers.

The lower area which connects to the water feels enclosed, primarily by the steep sandstone escarpment which distinguishes the upper and lower areas. This scale and proportion of natural features forces the user to be in touch with the water and views beyond. This area is very tidy and well maintained.

Activity

The zone is generally used by visitors for passive recreation, with the community making use of the grassy and shaded areas for relaxation, picnics and gatherings. This zone is a dog on-leash area, which makes it more suited to picnic goers and families. Parking along Fitzroy Ave provides ease for parents and less able people to access this area for recreation. The lower area is accessible via a road down from Fitzroy Ave. The small harbour beach to the north east provides an access point for kayaks and small boats into the water. Many small boats are stored in racks alongside the beach. This corner has become a real spot for locals.

Furniture

There are two metal benches facing the harbour on the lower area of the zone, which are in good condition. There are no bins in this area.

A number of painted timber park benches are found in the upper area of zone 2. These benches match those found in zone one and are in a similar dilapidated condition. Signs of wear include timber members loose from their fixings and splintering of the timber. Two red wheelie bins are located alongside the pedestrian path at the junction where the path meets the road

heading down to the lower area. One red bin is located at the top north eastern corner of the site.

Signage & Wayfinding

There is no entrance sign for Fitzroy Avenue Reserve. Signage throughout this zone is inconsistent or lacking entirely. At the bend in Fitzroy Ave is a companion animal on/off leash sign to match the others in the park. It stands alone and draws little attention to itself. Signage further down Fitzroy Ave toward Elkington Park have no mention of the park or the reserve, they are specifically for the baths.

A sign outlining the history of 'Cockatoo Island' is located along the fence in the upper zone looking out to the island. It is out-of-date in terms of information and also bears the old Leichhardt Council branding.

Also along this fence is an old sign with information about private booking in the park. Old council logos are found on all signs within zone 2, with the exception of new signs to Dawn Fraser Baths.

Lighting

General lighting within the park has been partially upgraded. Lighting generally follows the main pathways.

Tree Cover

Dense tree cover is found around the Dawn Fraser Baths, connecting to tree cover throughout the park. Three medium sized fig trees are located along the foreshore, with canopies framing the pathway along the coastline. Other trees are scattered throughout the zone.

Planting

There is a good balance of understorey planting to grassed areas in this zone. In contrast to zone 1, shaded areas below tree cover utilise understorey planting where grass doesn't grow. Alongside the car parking, a native flower garden flourishes.

Fauna Linkages

This zone offers bio-diversity through tree cover and understorey planting, which connects to the rest of the park. With the exception of the small beach in this zone, the raised stone foreshore limits connection to the aquatic wildlife. The defined stone edge does however harbour an ecosystem of its own. Oysters and sea creatures can be observed standing on the foreshore.



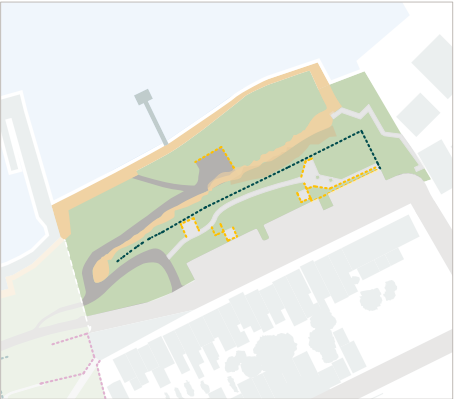
Tree Cover & Understorey Planting



Existing Structures + Facilities



Lighting



Fence + Enclosure



Pedestrian Access Points & Existing Pathways



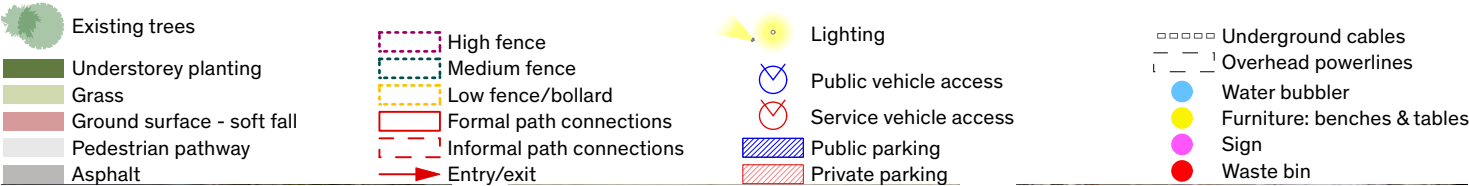
Vehicular Access Points, Roads and Carparking



Sports + Recreation Grounds



Gradient (Approximate)



Ground Cover & Surfaces

Aside from understorey planting, ground cover in this zone is typically grass. The grass in zone 2 is healthy due to its exposure to sunlight. Paving in the upper area is used for the car parking areas and pathways. This paving is old, but appears in good condition. The surface of bitumen roads and paths is poor with uneven surfaces and crumbling edges.

The sandstone foreshore is visually striking and in good condition, however the uneven surface is not well suited to wheelchairs and prams, despite this path being the accessible entry to Dawn Fraser.

Boundary Conditions

The two narrow areas have very defined boundaries. The top area is bound by the car parking along Fitzroy Ave, which is slightly raised from the pedestrian walkway + grass, separated by a small embankment and retaining wall. These retaining walls are sandstone blockwork and appear to be quite old. The somewhat random configuration suggests that they were placed on site for a prior purpose. To the north, this grassy strip is bound by a metal fence and steep drop off beyond.

The lower area is bound by the water to the north and the tall sandstone escarpment to the south. No fences are located along the foreshore.

Pedestrian / Cyclist Access + Existing Pathways

There are three entry points into zone 2 from Fitzroy Ave and two paths leading from zone 1. At the most eastern point of the park, a staircase leads from Fitzroy Ave down to the small harbour beach via a boardwalk. This entry is very discrete and could be confused as a private pathway due to its close proximity to the neighbouring house. Alongside this staircase, a footpath leads from the car park into and along the upper area of zone 2. It follows a gentle ramp which mediates the difference in levels. Zone 2 can also be accessed by the public via a bitumen road which leads down to the accessible car park. This is the only entryway which has park signage and such signage is specific only to the Dawn Fraser Baths, without mention of the greater park.

Within the park itself, a stone path running behind the Dawn Fraser Baths connects the two zones. A small connection path links the two bitumen roads and creates a short-cut for pedestrians. This path is bitumen and in poor condition.

All paths in zone 2 are narrow and/or have an uneven surface which makes them unsuitable for cyclists. The steep topography of the site makes it undesirable for cyclists.

Vehicular Access Points, Roads and Car Parking

Vehicles are permitted into the reserve along a narrow bitumen path which leads to an accessible car park, servicing Dawn Fraser Baths. There is designated front to kerb parking on the park side of Fitzroy Ave as well as parallel parking on the side opposite.

Existing Structures and Heritage Significance

Along the upper area of the reserve are three fixed shelters for seating. These are in good condition but show signs of wear.

A jetty and connected pontoon is located in this zone. The current jetty was built in 20** and is still in good condition.

Connecting the two levels is a timber and steel boardwalk and staircase. This structure is in good condition.



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02



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01. Jetty / 02. Accessible Carpark / 03. Sandstone foreshore / 04. Kayak + boat racking / 05. Harbour beach / 06. Timber staircase + walkway to Fitzroy Avenue / 07. Carparking along Fitzroy Avenue / 08. Seating area + lookout point to Cockatoo Island / 09. Shaded gazebo structures / 10. Sandstone escarpment / 11. Winding road to accessible carpark / 12. Rear entry point to Dawn Fraser Baths

Zone 2 - Constraints + Opportunities

Based on the Analysis set out over the previous pages, the following opportunities present themselves within Zone 2.

There are opportunities to:

- Improve accessible access to the Dawn Fraser Baths via Fitzroy Avenue.
- Upgrade existing asphalt road which connects the upper and lower areas of the reserve.
- Improve signage consistency throughout the zone.
- Install a park map at selected locations. The park map should include a tactile section + section written in language of First Nations group. Clearly identify park assets and public toilet locations. The map should communicate the civic and historic character of the park.
- Upgrade park furniture to the upper lookout area + provide a water bubbler.
- Provide additional park lighting to rear entrance of Dawn Fraser Baths.
- Investigate public bins to the lower area of the reserve.