

James Ruse Reserve



DESCRIPTION

45 Hassall St, PARRAMATTA

James Ruse (1760-1837) arrived on the first fleet and was said to be one of the first convicts to be sent to Rosehill (now Parramatta) who understood agriculture. Upon the expiry of his sentence in 1789, Ruse claimed his freedom and was supplied with the necessary land, tools, seed and livestock and help from the government to see if he could become a self-sufficient farmer. In 1791 Ruse advised the governor that he no longer needed government supplied stores as his farm was supporting him, and he confirmed the first official land grant of 30 acres. He called this Experiment Farm and began to cultivate it by hoe. James Ruse Reserve now occupies part of this land grant and has the following facilities:

- Children's playground (including a water play area)
- Seating
- Picnic tables and shelters
- Skate park
- Off street car park

The Water Park open times are:

- September - November: 10am-3.30pm
- December - February: 9am-6.30pm
- March - April: 10am-3.30pm
- May - August: Closed