# **7 City View Rd Pennant Hills** Landscape Planning Proposal

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We respectfully acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the lands where we live and work. We acknowledge their unique ability to care for Country and deep spiritual connection to it. We honour Elders past, present and emerging whose knowledge and wisdom has and will ensure the continuation of cultures and traditional practices.



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# Analysis **Site Context**

The site's proximity to forests, national parks, retail amenity trains, and buses, as well as a large number of great schools in the neighborhood make it a great place to live.





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### Analysis **Pennant Hills History and Heritage**



Toongagal or Tuga clan of the Dharug People

#### **Pre-Settlement**

The Aboriginal heritage of the Hornsby Shire region was at least 15,000 to 20,000 years old by the time European settlers arrived in 1788. The Dharug people are the traditional owners of the land, who lived around the springs and waterholes in the heavily wooded country.

The Toongagal or Tuga clan (place of thick woods) lived in the area now known as Pennant Hills. Remains of both open camps and cave dwellings have been discovered in the area, with charcoal drawings, shellfish middens, and animal bones. The rock dwellings found near the Darling Mills Creek date back almost 12,000 years.

The Dhurag people called the Hawkesbury River 'Deerubbin', which provided the main food source of yams, fish, and shellfish. The arrival of Europeans disrupted these food sources, with much of the land cleared to establish crops by 1795.



**Pennant Hills** - Early 19th Century

#### 1800's

The original township of Pennant Hills started where West Pennant Hills is today.

The name 'Pennant Hills' is suggested to be named after Sir Thomas Pennant, a famous naturalist and is applied to the whole ridge down as far as Mobbs Hill.

The first white settlement occurred in the area with the establishment of convict timber camps in the time of Governor Lachlan Macquarie.



Pennant Hills -Mid 19th Century

#### 1840

Shortly after, permanent white settlement of Pennant Hills began in the 1840s and took off with the arrival of the Northern railway line in the 1880s.



**Pennant Hills** -Early to mid 20th Century

#### 1900's

Because of the short time it took to convey goods to Sydney from Pennant Hills by rail, orchardists started growing soft fruits such as nectarines, peaches, plums, and other stone fruit on the land surrounding Pennant Hills.

In August 1912, the federal government opened a Wireless Telegraphy Station, the first of its kind on a national level.

Historic aerial photo, taken in 1943 of the site showing an Orchard.







**Pennant Hills** -Late 20th Century



1996

West Pennant Hills was split off from Pennant Hills as a separate suburb on 23 August 1996.

### Orchards and the Blue Gum High Forest

Because of the short time it took to convey goods to Sydney from Pennant Hills by rail, orchardists started growing soft fruits such as nectarines, peaches, plums, and other stone fruit on the land of this site and surrounds (shown in this 1943 Aerial photograph).

Remnant and critically endangered ecological community, Sydney Blue Gum High Forest is also found in this area. A beautiful and distinctive ecological community of the Sydney region, Sydney Blue Gum Forests are not found anywhere else in Australia.

A tall open forest, the ecological community contains many species iconic to the Sydney landscape, as well as many edible and medicinal species.

Before European arrival, this community was found exclusively in the eastern basin. There is now less than 200 hectares remaining intact, less than 4.5% of the original distribution. It is classified as Critically Endangered, under both State and Commonwealth legislation.

Bush tucker and traditional medicines may include:

Eucalyptus saligna; Acacia sp.; Angophora costata; Acmena smithii; Ficus coronata; Persoonia linearis; Cissus hypoglauca; Elaeocarpus reticulatus; Lomandra sp.



Remnants of the Sydney Blue Gum High Forest



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### Analysis Site Character

The site currently contains a 3-5 story commercial office building (above ground parking levels). It sits within 250m of Pennant Hills rail station and approximately 19km from the Sydney CBD. Due to the sloping topography of the site, the building steps read as two levels on the northern frontage of City View Road and five levels from Wongala Crescent.

Vegetation surrounding the property compromises new plantings and some re-grown of Blue Gum Forest species mainly along the site's perimeter.

Streetscape

Vegetation





**City View Road** 



Wongala Crescent



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### Vision Landscape Objectives



WILDLIFE

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### COMFORT

### Vision **Design Principles**



#### MAKE IT PEACEFUL

Provide convenient access/ 'shortcut' Public offerings within the space 'Pocket Park' Passive park/tree setting

#### MAKE IT FUNCTIONAL

Relationship with building interface Amenities Play elements for young families Respond to building levels 'Discovery Trail' weaving through trees and interacting with the natural landforms

Protect streetscape character + treed envionment along Wongala Protect ecology Protect existing Blue Gum Forest Swale along edge to catch water and infiltrate overland flow Passive bushland edge



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#### MAKE IT RESPONSIVE



### Landscape Masterplan





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### Landscape Concept



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#### KEY

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Indicative Existing Trees Location

**Existing Trees** 

**Proposed Tree** 

Pedestrian Connection - New shortcut link

Entrance Signage - incorporated into retaining wall

Proposed reconfigured stair/elevator design

Cafe/retail area

Main Entry on Level 4

Community Terrace - BBQ area

Timber Play Area

'Discovery Trail' with Aboriginal Bush Tucker planting and signage

Swale to infiltrate overland flow

Blue Gum Forest Regeneration

Proposed pedestrian crossing

Shaded micro-climate planting

Existing footpath

Extend existing footpath to proposed pedestrian crossing

Proposed fence

Vehicular access from Wongala Crescent

Native 'Screen' planting

20m

15

10

Line

Railway

### 'Pocket Park'



The following precedent images provide our initial intent of the landscape design concept.







Work with natural level changes and to create nooks within the park

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### 'Pocket Park'



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### 'Discovery Trail' (Re-generative Passive Bushland Edge)

#### KEY

Existing Trees

Proposed Trees

- 1
  - Gravel discovery path with sandstone stepping elements
- 3 Signage and wayfinding elements
- (4) Swale to infiltrate overland flow
- 5 Bridge at swale and trail intersection
- 6 Timber Boardwalk
- Native Buffer Blue Gum Forest Regeneration
- 8 Proposed pedestrian crossing
- (9) Extend existing footpath to proposed pedestrian crossing
- (10) Vehicular access from Wongala Crescent





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A playful and didactic trail of cultural significance





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5m

## 'Discovery Trail' (Re-generative Passive Bushland Edge)



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'Discovery Trail' (Re-generative Passive Bushland Edge) Section





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### Rooftop Strategy



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### Rooftop Concept Level 7



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8m

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### Indicative Planting Palette Native Buffer - Blue Gum Forest



Persoonia mollis

Doodia aspera

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Callistemon salignus

Banksia spinulosa















Dianella caerulea

### Indicative Planting Palette Shade Planting - Rainforest Microclimate





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### Indicative Planting Palette Communal Rooftop

















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