



Draft Conservation Management Plan for Bigge Park, Liverpool



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for
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Table of Contents

Executive Summary.....	5
Introduction.....	5
History and main features	5
Aboriginal land claims	5
Previous plans and proposals	5
The current urban design concept.....	5
Investigation of significance	6
Statement of cultural heritage significance	6
Management of significance.....	6
Key recommendations	6
1.0 Introduction.....	7
1.1 Background.....	7
1.2 What is a Conservation Management Plan	8
1.3 The purposes of this CMP	8
1.4 The study area for the CMP	9
1.5 Current heritage listings	10
1.6 Guiding documents and methodology.....	11
1.7 Community consultation	12
1.8 Authorship.....	12
1.9 Acknowledgments.....	12
1.10 Terminology used.....	12
1.11 Abbreviations	13
1.12 Limitations.....	14
1.13 Disclaimer.....	14
1.14 Copyright, moral rights and right to use	14
2.0 Analysis of Documentary Evidence	15
2.1 Narrative history of Bigge Park.....	15
2.1.1 Introduction	15
2.1.2 The original natural landscape.....	15
2.1.3 Cabrogal – Darug country.....	15
2.1.4 A new town on the edge of the wilderness	18
2.1.5 A public market place and annual fair ground	19
2.1.6 Bigge Park – dedicated for public recreation.....	22
2.1.7 Park alienations for sectional sporting interests.....	26
2.1.8 Coping with the post-war ‘Baby Boom’.....	34
2.1.9 A place for memorials.....	36
2.1.10 A focus for community events.....	48
2.1.11 Future directions for Bigge Park.....	51
2.2 Bigge Park timeline	52
2.6 Historical themes and how they are represented	59
2.6.1 Introduction	59
2.6.2 Historical themes.....	59
3.0 Analysis of physical evidence.....	63
3.1 Bigge Park & its setting	63
3.1.1 Topography.....	63
3.1.2 Geology & soils	63
3.1.3 Views, vistas & visual absorption capacity	63
3.1.4 The park boundaries	66

3.1.5	Access & circulation	66
3.1.6	Natural elements	66
3.1.7	Plantings	66
3.2	Park elements and condition	68
4.0	Comparative Analysis	73
4.1	Introduction	73
4.2	Richmond Park, Richmond.....	73
4.3	Town Square, Wilberforce, NSW	74
4.4	McQuade Park, Windsor	75
4.5	Thompson Square, Windsor, NSW	76
4.6	Regent Square, George Town, Tasmania.....	79
4.7	Conclusion	81
5.0	Assessment of heritage values.....	81
5.1	Principles and Basis for Assessment	81
5.2	Assessment Methodology	81
5.3	Review of Heritage Significance	82
5.3.1	Historical Significance (Criterion A).....	82
5.3.2	Historical Associational Significance (Criterion B)	82
5.3.3	Aesthetic Significance (Criterion C)	83
5.3.4	Social Significance (Criterion D)	83
5.3.5	Technical Significance and Research Potential (Criterion E)	83
5.3.6	Rarity (Criterion F).....	83
5.3.7	Representativeness (Criterion G).....	84
5.3.8	Integrity / intactness	84
5.4	Curtilage Considerations	84
5.4.1	Some Definitions	84
5.4.2	Recommended Curtilage.....	85
5.5	State Heritage Inventory statement of significance.....	85
5.6	New statement of significance	85
5.7	Significance of elements	87
5.7.1	Grades of significance	87
5.10.2	Grading individual elements.....	88
6.0	Issues, opportunities & constraints	89
6.1	Introduction	89
6.2	Constraints and opportunities arising from significance.....	89
6.3	Liverpool City Council's requirements.....	90
6.3.1	Current proposals.....	90
6.4	Constraints arising from condition & use.....	91
6.5	Constraints and opportunities arising from statutory requirements	91
6.5.1	Role of Liverpool City Council.....	91
6.5.2	NSW Heritage Act	92
6.5.3	Aboriginal Land Claims.....	94
6.5.4	Archaeological Requirements	94
6.6	Constraints arising from Non-Statutory Listings	95
6.6.1	National Trust of Australia (NSW) Register	95
6.6.2	Register of Significant Buildings in NSW.....	95
6.7	Opportunities for heritage interpretation.....	95
6.8	Constraints arising from Community Expectations	96
6.9	Constraints arising from access and other building requirements	96
6.9.1	Building Code.....	96
6.9.2	Universal access	97
6.10	Landscape management and maintenance issues.....	97

6.11	Appropriate structures in Bigge Park	98
7.0	Conservation Policies	98
7.1	Conservation Principles.....	98
7.2	General statement of conservation policy	98
7.3	Individual Policies.....	99
7.3.1	Conservation philosophy	99
7.3.2	Interpretation.....	100
7.3.3	Use of significant spaces, features and fabric	102
7.3.4	Public access and safety	102
7.3.5	Conservation of significant features, spaces and fabric	103
7.3.6	Intervention in the fabric	103
7.3.7	Alterations and additions to significant fabric and spaces.....	104
7.3.8	Detailed policies on conservation of significant fabric.....	106
7.3.9	Archaeology	108
7.3.10	Compliance with building regulations	109
7.3.11	Installation of services	110
7.3.12	Maintenance and Repair.....	110
7.3.13	Maintaining Bigge Park as public open space	111
7.3.14	Conservation of significant views and vistas	112
7.3.15	'Good housekeeping'.....	112
7.3.16	Landscape conservation.....	113
7.3.17	Need for a Landscape Master Plan.....	114
7.3.18	Protection of setting & control of development of adjoining lands	114
7.3.19	Amendment to SHI listing & nomination for SHR listing	115
7.3.20	Preparation of Heritage Impact Statements.....	115
7.3.21	Endorsement and dissemination of this CMP	115
7.3.22	Archival recording.....	116
8.0	Heritage Conservation Guidelines	116
8.1	Introduction.....	116
8.2	Specific Element Conservation Guidelines	117
9.0	Interpretation Strategy for Bigge Park.....	128
9.1	The need for an Interpretation Plan	128
9.2	Suggested approach and methodology	129
9.3	A suggested framework.....	132
10.0	This CMP and the new Landscape Masterplan.....	133
11.0	Implementation of this CMP	134
11.1	General comments.....	134
11.2	Timing of actions.....	134
11.3	Program for implementation of policies	135
12.0	Sources Consulted & Useful References.....	139
12.1	Books and consultant reports	139
12.2	Maps.....	145
12.3	Newspaper articles.....	145
13.0	Appendices.....	146
13.1	Burra Charter	146
13.2	State Heritage Inventory database entry.....	146
13.3	Assessment of the likely impacts and appropriateness of proposed planting schemes on the heritage values, elements and vistas of Bigge Park, Liverpool	146

Figure 1 (Front cover) Images of Bigge Park, Liverpool. (Source: Centre image: Google Maps; all other photos by Chris Betteridge)

Executive Summary

Introduction

In late October 2014 Betteridge Consulting Pty Ltd t/a **MUSEcape** was commissioned by Liverpool City Council to prepare a Conservation Management Plan (CMP) for Bigge Park, located to the east of the Liverpool CBD.

History and main features

Bigge Park (originally known as Bigge's Square and later as Bigge's-square Park) was established at the direction of Governor Lachlan Macquarie with the intention of it being used as a public market place and venue for annual fairs by the future residents of the newly established Town of Liverpool and surrounding rural area. Provision for the park was accordingly made in the town plan grid prepared by Surveyor James Meehan in late 1810. The park was formally proclaimed as a park for public recreation in 1868.

In the mid-1850s part of Bigge Park was excised for developments associated with the coming of the railway to Liverpool and over the subsequent years the grassed open space of Bigge Park has been progressively whittled down for tennis courts (1920s), the Liverpool City Bowling Club (1936), a dressing shed for cricket and football (early 1940s), the Dr James Pirie Child Welfare Clinic (1940s), Rotary clock tower (1955) and music shell (1974).

Aboriginal land claims

Aboriginal Land Claims by the Gandangara Local Aboriginal Land Council were lodged on 19 March and 3 September 2008 over Bigge Park (with the exception of the Dr Pirie Centre) and the Bowling Club site respectively. These matters are yet to be finalised.

Previous plans and proposals

There have been a number of management plans and upgrading proposals for Bigge Park since the 1980s including the 2003 Plan of Management and Master Plan. Only some recommendations in these plans have been implemented and by 2013 the bowling club had closed as a result of declining membership and income and the community and councillors were increasingly expressing concern at the state of the park and its relative underutilisation as a valuable community open space.

The current urban design concept

In December 2013, Urbis with LAVA and WAX were commissioned by Liverpool City Council to develop an urban design concept for the Bigge Park Precinct as part of the Liverpool City Centre Revitalisation project, a long term development program for the City. The resultant concept design includes the following strategies:

- Reclaim the historic park boundaries
- Celebrate the local heritage
- Respond to the park role as a major civic place

- Provide an opportunity for a range of activities and events including, cultural, recreational, social/leisure and environmental activities.

At the time of preparation of this CMP the urban design concept for Bigge Park was 90% complete and it has been partly informed by the research for the CMP and discussions between the CMP authors and the urban design concept team.

Investigation of significance

Preparation of this CMP has involved historical research, review of previous reports and consultation with Council staff and other stakeholders to enable a re-assessment of the park's heritage values.

Statement of cultural heritage significance

A revised statement of significance for Bigge Park is included in the CMP which finds the park is of such historical and associational and significance and rarity value as a surviving public space from the Macquarie era that it warrants nomination for inclusion on the State Heritage Register, with appropriate exemptions for management in accordance with this CMP.

Management of significance

Consideration of the heritage significance, together with analysis of relevant issues, opportunities and constraints enabled the development of a range of conservation policies to guide Council's future management and maintenance of Bigge Park.

Key recommendations

- Endorse this CMP as the guiding document for Council's decision making in regard to the future conservation and management of Bigge Park.
- Retain existing park boundaries as curtilage for Bigge Park.
- Retain Bigge Park as essentially open space for passive recreation.
- Manage Bigge Park in accordance with current best practice and statutory requirements to retain and conserve its heritage values.
- Implement the conservation policies in this CMP to achieve the above outcomes.
- Prepare an Interpretation Plan for Bigge Park to communicate its heritage values to present and future generations.
- Nominate Bigge Park for inclusion on the State Heritage Register.
- Coordinate the implementation of this CMP with an endorsed Landscape Masterplan for Bigge Park.
- Conservation of the Cook Memorial Obelisk and relocation from Discovery Park to an agreed location in Bigge Park.

1.0 Introduction

1.1 Background

Bigge Park was established at the direction of Governor Macquarie with the intention of it being used as a public market place and venue for annual fairs by the future residents of the newly established Town of Liverpool and surrounding rural area. Provision for the park was accordingly made in the town plan grid prepared by Surveyor James Meehan in late 1810. The park was formally proclaimed as a park for public recreation in 1868.

Over the years the grassed open space of Bigge Park has been progressively whittled down:

- Some of its southern corner was excised when the railway line reached Liverpool in 1855 and a group of station buildings had to be erected there.
- The installation of the tennis courts in the 1920s along the southern boundary with Moore Street, together with the establishment of the Bowling Club in 1936, resulted in the excision of virtually a third of the park for formalised, active recreation.
- The establishment of the Dr James Pirie Child Welfare Clinic (renamed the Baby Health Clinic) on the park's south-west corner (Bigge and Moore Streets) in the 1940s completed the building over of the southern sector of the park.
- In 1955 the local Rotary Club wished to commemorate its 50th anniversary and decided to donate a clock tower near the centre of the park in order to enhance it and provide a focal point. This soon prompted the installation of several other memorials scattered around the park
- In 1974 a music shell was built near the north-eastern corner of Bigge Park.
- Bigge Park Plan of Management and Master Plan was prepared in 2003
- Two Aboriginal Land Claims with regard to parts of Bigge Park were lodged in 2008 by the Gandangara Land Council. These matters are yet to be finalised.

In December 2013, Urbis with LAVA and WAX were commissioned by Liverpool City Council to develop an urban design concept for the Bigge Park Precinct as part of the Liverpool City Centre Revitalisation project, a long term development programme for the City. The resultant concept design includes the following strategies:

- Reclaim the historic park boundaries
- Celebrate the local heritage

- Respond to the park role as a major civic place
- Provide an opportunity for a range of activities and events including, cultural, recreational, social/leisure and environmental activities.

This Conservation Management Plan (CMP), commissioned by Liverpool City Council from heritage consultants Betteridge Consulting Pty Ltd t/a **MUSEcape**, is based on review of previous reports, additional historical research, consultation with park stakeholders and analysis of relevant issues, opportunities and constraints. The CMP supports previous assessments of the significance of Bigge Park and recommends that as an historic town square it warrants listing on the State Heritage Register, with appropriate exemptions to allow for day-to-day management. The CMP recommends conservation management policies to retain and enhance the park's heritage values, comments on current development proposals and provides an interpretation strategy for communicating the heritage values of the park to the present and future communities.

1.2 What is a Conservation Management Plan

A Conservation Management Plan is a document which assesses the heritage significance of a place through an ordered process involving the following steps:

1. Identification of the place through analysis of its history and current form.
2. Assessment of the significance of the place as a whole and its elements against a standard set of criteria.
3. Analysis of relevant issues, constraints and opportunities affecting the place.
4. Recommendations for policies, strategies and actions to conserve the heritage values of the place and guide management decision making.

1.3 The purposes of this CMP

Bigge Park is recognised as a place of considerable heritage significance for the Liverpool local government area and for New South Wales. The brief for the CMP is to advise Council on the ongoing management of Bigge Park and future change, as well as providing specific guidance on the development of detail design for the park, the next stage of the Masterplan project.

The purposes of the CMP are detailed below.

- An understanding of Bigge Park through investigation of its historical and geographical context, its history, fabric, research potential and importance to the community (including the post 1788 Aboriginal heritage).
- An analysis of the documentary and physical evidence, including a comparative analysis with other places of similar age, size and elements to enable determination of the nature, extent and degree of significance of Bigge Park. This analysis is to include identification of relevant State and local historical themes.

- Preparation of a statement of significance and a plan of the park showing graded zones and elements of significance, with a hierarchy of values from Exceptional through High, Moderate and Little to Intrusive.
- Development of conservation policies arising out of the statement of significance and identification and careful consideration of relevant constraints and opportunities to guide Council on potential changes to Bigge Park as well as its management and ongoing maintenance.
- The brief requires specific policies to address:
 - Significant views;
 - The memorials in the park and the erection of new memorials;
 - Succession planting;
 - Areas that can accommodate change;
 - Recommendation and explanation as to whether Bigge Park warrants listing on the State Heritage Register; and,
- If Bigge Park is considered to be of State significance, the policies are to make recommendations with regard to site specific exemptions in relation to the NSW Heritage Act 1977;
- Recommend an action / implementation plan, including a conservation schedule and maintenance schedule (developed in consultation with Council's Parks Team).
- The Conservation management plan is to address how the Bigge Park concept design plan can best be achieved in accordance with the conservation policies (including recommendations for any changes to the concept plan in order to conserve heritage values), and make recommendations which can inform the preparation of the detail design of the park. Options could be discussed.
- The conservation management plan is to include a detailed interpretation strategy.

The completed plan must be suitable for presentation to the Heritage Council of NSW for its review and endorsement and / or to support applications for approvals under the Heritage Act where required.

The CMP is to include an Executive Summary suitable for public exhibition.

1.4 The study area for the CMP

Bigge Park is located in the eastern section of Liverpool Town Centre. The Park is bounded by Bigge Street on its western side, Elizabeth Street on its northern side, College Street on its eastern side and Moore Street on its southern side. The Bigge Street boundary is the longest. Bigge Park is Crown land under the care, control and management of Liverpool City Council. The study area includes tennis courts and cafe, a disused bowling club house and greens, former dressing shed (now used for maintenance equipment storage and as a pump house for park irrigation), the Dr

James Pirie Community Centre (used by the University of the Third Age and Junctionworks) and a music shell.

The park encompasses the following land:
 Lot 701 DP 1056246 (the Dr Pirie Centre);
 Lot 702 DP 1056246 (Bigge Park minus the Dr Pirie Centre); and,
 Lot 394 DP752060 (the Bowling Club site).

The location of Bigge Park in the context of the Liverpool CBD is shown in Figure 2 below.



Figure 2 Aerial photograph showing Bigge Park (edged red) in the context of Liverpool CBD. (Source: Liverpool City Council)

1.5 Current heritage listings

The following heritage listings in Liverpool Local Environmental Plan 2008 apply to the study area:

- Bigge Park (item no. 82);
- Dr James Pirie Child Welfare Centre Building (item no. 100);
- The park is located within the Bigge Park Conservation Area.

The park is also located in the vicinity of a number of other heritage items:

- Liverpool College [of TAFE] – former Liverpool Hospital and Benevolent Asylum (item no. 80);
- Liverpool Railway Station Group (item no.72);
- Former Liverpool Court House (item no. 73);

- Plan of Town of Liverpool (item no. 89).



Figure 3 Extract of Heritage Map from Liverpool LEP 2008 showing Bigge Park and other heritage items in its vicinity (coloured beige) and the Bigge Park Conservation Area (hatched red). (Source: Liverpool City Council)

1.6 Guiding documents and methodology

This CMP has been prepared in accordance with the guidelines for investigating and assessing significance in the *NSW Heritage Manual* (NSW Heritage Office / Department of Urban Affairs and Planning, 1996, as amended), other NSW Government heritage publications and Dr James Semple Kerr's *The Conservation Plan*, 7th edition.

Preparation of the report involved library and web-based research of documentary material on the site, analysis of previous reports, site inspections by one or more team members on 9 October, 24 November and 12 December 2014, consultation with the client and other stakeholders. The report includes a narrative history of the site, a chronological summary, discussion of the site's evolution, a brief physical description of the site including a views analysis, assessment of heritage values, including curtilage determination and comparative analysis leading to a summary statement of cultural significance for the place, consideration of relevant issues, constraints and opportunities, development of draft conservation management policies, an interpretation strategy and recommendations for implementation of the CMP to retain and communicate significance. Built and landscape elements are identified and ranked for significance and guidelines are also provided for sympathetic adaptive re-use for parts of the site.

1.7 Community consultation

Liverpool City Council has a strong commitment to community consultation. Community comment on the draft CMP will be an important part of the integration of the CMP's policies with the Bigge Park Landscape Masterplan. Consultation during the preparation of the draft CMP has been limited to the park's key tenants and members of Liverpool City Council staff. It is anticipated that the draft CMP will be placed on public exhibition for community comment before finalisation.

1.8 Authorship

This report has been prepared by Chris and Margaret Betteridge, Directors of Betteridge Consulting Pty Ltd t/a **MUSEcape**. The authors are specialists in the identification, assessment, management and interpretation of places of cultural heritage significance, with relevant qualifications and extensive experience in heritage conservation.

1.9 Acknowledgments

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1.10 Terminology used

The following terms from the Burra Charter of Australia ICOMOS have been used in this CMP.

Place means site, area, land, landscape, building or other work, group of buildings or other works, and may include components, contents, spaces and views.

Cultural significance means aesthetic, historic, scientific, social or spiritual value for past, present or future generations. Cultural significance is embodied in the *place*

itself, its *fabric, setting, use, associations, meanings, records, related places and related objects*. Places may have a range of values for different individuals or groups.

Fabric means all the physical material of the *place* including components, fixtures, contents, and objects.

Conservation means all the processes of looking after a *place* so as to retain its *cultural significance*.

Maintenance means the continuous protective care of the *fabric and setting* of a *place*, and is to be distinguished from repair. Repair involves restoration or reconstruction.

Preservation means maintaining the *fabric* of a *place* in its existing state and retarding deterioration.

Restoration means returning the existing *fabric* of a *place* to a known earlier state by removing accretions or by reassembling existing components without the introduction of new material.

Reconstruction means returning a *place* to a known earlier state and is distinguished from *restoration* by the introduction of new material into the *fabric*.

Adaptation means modifying a *place* to suit the existing use or a proposed use.

Use means the functions of a *place*, as well as the activities and practices that may occur at the *place*.

Compatible use means a use which respects the cultural significance of a *place*. Such a use involves no, or minimal, impact on cultural significance.

Setting means the area around a *place*, which may include the visual catchment.

Related place means a place that contributes to the *cultural significance* of another place.

1.11 Abbreviations

AHC - Australian Heritage Council;

BCA – Building Code of Australia

CMP - Conservation Management Plan;

DA – Development Application;

DCP - Development Control Plan;

DDA - Commonwealth *Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) 1992*

DOP - NSW Department of Planning;

DP&I – NSW Department of Planning and Infrastructure;

EP & A Act – Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1979;

EP & A Regulation - Environmental Planning & Assessment Regulation 2000;
 HIS – Heritage Impact Statement;
 ICOMOS - International Council of Monuments and Sites;
 IDA – Integrated Development Application;
 ILP – Indicative Layout Plan;
 LCC – Liverpool City Council;
 LEP - Local Environmental Plan;
 NT - National Trust of Australia (New South Wales);
 OEH – Office of Environment and Heritage;
 PP – Planning Proposal;
 SEPP – State Environmental Planning Policy;
 SHR - State Heritage Register;
 SOHI - Statement of Heritage Impact;
 WH & S Act - *Work Health & Safety Act 2011*

1.12 Limitations

Research was limited to those sources available to the authors within the timeframe of the study. No physical intervention in the site was carried out apart from some minor examination of building materials. No inspections were made of sub-floor areas or roof spaces in any of the park's buildings.

The assessment and management of Aboriginal heritage values or historic archaeology have not been part of this study.

Comparative analysis was limited to properties of similar age and significance currently listed on the State Heritage Register, LEP schedules or otherwise known to the consultants.

1.13 Disclaimer

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2.0 Analysis of Documentary Evidence

This section provides a narrative history of the place drawn from reports made available by Liverpool City Council, research at Liverpool City Council Library Local Studies Collection and additional library and web-based research. The narrative history is followed by a timeline of events and developments relevant to the park in the context of Liverpool and identification of the Australian and NSW historical themes that the park can demonstrate.

2.1 Narrative history of Bigge Park

2.1.1 Introduction

Bigge Park, Liverpool has provided the township and residents of Liverpool with open space for recreational and sporting use since the early 19th century. From the mid-20th century, it became an important site for commemoration of events significant to the people of Liverpool. As an important 'green lung' for the expanding community, Bigge Park also plays an important role as a place for gatherings of local social and civic significance.

2.1.2 The original natural landscape

Before the establishment of the town of Liverpool in 1810 the area now occupied by Bigge Park and the Liverpool CBD would have been open forest with grassland but may have undergone slight modification before European settlement by the land management practices of the Darug. The likely original vegetation in the area and the present plantings in the park are discussed in Section 3.0.

2.1.3 Cabrogal – Darug country

The following information is derived from the KARI Aboriginal Resources website.¹

'In 1795, when Bass and Flinders first explored the Georges River before the colonisation of the Liverpool area, the Darug, Tharawal and Gandangara tribes

¹ <http://www.kari.org.au/culture/local-aboriginal-history.php>

lived in the area. These three tribal groups were divided into smaller clans or bands - extended family units consisting of up to sixty people. Each of these clans was named after the area of land where they normally resided, and which the people had traditional links.

The suffix 'gal' was added to the place name to distinguish the members of that clan. The clan group around Liverpool was the Cabrogal, named after the cohbra grubs they harvested at the banks of the Georges River, especially near Cabramatta Creek. The main contact between groups was during ceremonial gatherings. There were linguistic and cultural differences, as well as economic ones. There was also a complicated system of kinship and totems which prevented certain types of contact. It is difficult to pinpoint exact language boundaries, as information came from early colonists, explorers and ethnographers trying to interpret Aboriginal languages.

However, it is thought that the Tharawal language was spoken from South of Botany Bay to the area east of the Georges River (Holsworthy area) to as far south as Jervis Bay and the Darug language on the Western side of the Georges River to Appin and Picton and as far west as the Blue Mountains. Gandangara is said to be the language of the 'mountain' people, from the Blue Mountains to the Nattai and Burraborang Valleys and as far south as Goulburn. Current Local Land Council boundaries differ from these 'traditional' boundaries. The Cabrogal clan was recognised as one of the 'woods tribes' by Europeans, together with Aborigines living at South Creek, at Cowpastures near Camden, and at Mulgoa near Penrith. Bass and Flinders' favourable reports pleased Governor Hunter, who named the area Banks Town, and by 1799 he was awarding grants of land in the Holsworthy area and along the Cabramatta Creek.

While the Aboriginal economy was dependent on harvesting resources with only very little modification to the environment, the Europeans quickly set about clearing the land and planting crops which prevented the Aboriginal people from carrying out their traditional hunting of animals and gathering of plant foods. In 1803 Thomas Moore was commissioned to take timber from the Georges River for shipbuilding. The river also provided water and for nearly two decades it was the primary means of transport back to Sydney. A far cry from the peaceful river on which Aborigines fished from their bank canoes or dug for yams and collected cohbra grubs near its banks.

When Governor Macquarie first toured the district, he saw much of it in its natural state. The land near Liverpool was generally open forest, as was the country further west along Cabramatta Creek, with eucalyptus of medium height, which covered about 30 percent of the ground surface, with grasses beneath. A small pox epidemic swept through the Aboriginal population around Sydney in 1789 and 1790, killing thousands of people. This decline in the Aboriginal population in lots of areas meant that many clans were forced to join together to provide mutual protection and to maintain viable social and economic units. By the 1840s lists of blanket issues to Aborigines (known as the Blanket register or Returns of Natives)

told the story of how many Aboriginal people were remaining in Liverpool and how their traditional lives had changed.'

It is interesting to note that Maria Lock, the first girl to be placed in the care of the Native Institution at Parramatta when it opened in 1815 was later to become the first Aboriginal woman to receive a 'grant' of land under British colonial rule, at Liverpool.² When Maria wed convict carpenter Robert Lock in 1824 their marriage was the first officially sanctioned union between a convict and an Aboriginal woman, and Robert was assigned to her. The Locks settled on a small farm at the Native Institution at Blacktown, but later moved to the employ of Rev. Robert Cartwright at Liverpool.

Bright and well-educated, Maria petitioned Governor Darling in March 1831 for her deceased brother Coley's (Colebee) grant at Blacktown, opposite the Native Institution. She asserted that she and her husband were entitled to earn 'an honest livelihood, and provide a comfortable home for themselves, and their increasing family'. Cartwright initially frustrated their first claim, as he felt it was injurious to the established buildings on his adjoining allotment. Maria persisted, and in 1833 another forty acres was granted to her at Liverpool in Robert's name. She received Colebee's thirty-acre (12.1 ha) grant in 1843.

It is understood that most of Maria Lock's grant at Liverpool is now taken up with the former Liverpool City Council Chambers, as well as a service station, a group of shops, a housing development, a portion of Flowerdale Road and a small easement owned by the NSW Road Transport Authority. The remainder of the grant area contains Brickmakers Creek and its floodplain, near the Council Chambers.³



Figure 4: Members of the Cabrogal clan of the Cabramatta tribe in Bigge Park opposite Liverpool Hospital in the 1840s. The group includes Fanny and child, Pialà (Black Rose), Màli (Queen Kitty), Dahla (White Polly), Kourban, an unnamed visitor from the Richmond tribe, Jack, King George, Clara's boy, and Rose's girl. (Source: Drawing by PHE Phelps, Dixson Gallery, State Library of NSW, reproduced in Liston, p7)

² Parry 2005

³ Hinkson, pp 143-4

While no detailed information is available about Aboriginal use of the area now known as Bigge Park, its elevation and proximity to the Georges River suggest it would have been frequented by Aboriginal people and was certainly still visited by local members of the Cabrogal clan and others, as evidenced by the drawing above. (Figure 4)

2.1.4 A new town on the edge of the wilderness

In November 1810 Governor Lachlan Macquarie, his wife Elizabeth, his aide-de-camp Captain Henry Antill, Sergeant Charles Whalan, the Governor's valet George Jarvis, the vice-regal guard and an entourage including Bengal tents, portable camping equipment and ample supplies of food and drink set off from Sydney to explore the area south of Parramatta.⁴

In his journal entry for 7 November 1810, Macquarie wrote:

"...accompanied by Mrs M, Capt. Antill and Mr Meehan, (later joined by Dr Redfern and Mr Moore), set out in a boat to view and survey the ground intended for a new township. Having surveyed the ground, I determined to erect a township on it and named it Liverpool in honour of the Earl of that title, now the Secretary of State for the Colonies."

In correspondence between Lord Liverpool and Governor Macquarie⁵, Liverpool writes about the suitability of the site for a town which was to bear his name.

His Excellency having extended his Views also to the situation of the Settlers on George's River, has deemed it expedient to mark out the situation for a Township on the west side (or left bank) of that River, in the District of Minto, to which he has given the Name of Liverpool.

The Situation of this Town is admirably calculated for Trade and Navigation, being immediately on the Bank of the River where the Depth of Water is sufficient to float Vessels of very considerable burthen. At this Town it is intended very soon to erect a Church, a School-House, a Gaol, a Guard-House, &c. Leases of Commodious and adequate Allotments- for Houses and Gardens will be given to suit free Mechanics and Tradesmen as may feel disposed to form a permanent Residence there, on their giving regular and due security for their building comfortable and substantial Houses, conformably to a Plan that will be shewn them on application to Thomas Moore, Esq're, the Chief Magistrate in that District.

Good Tradesmen and Mechanics settling at Liverpool will have the liberty of a large and contiguous Common for grazing Cattle, which is assigned for the Benefit of the Township, and those Persons who have not Milch Cows will be supplied with one Cow to each such person from the Government Herds for payment on advantageous conditions.

⁴ Simankevicius 2003, pp 39-40

⁵ http://www.sl.nsw.gov.au/events/exhibitions/2010/governor/docs/the_governor_guide.pdf

2.1.5 A public market place and annual fair ground

Streets and squares are one of the five types of urban voids that help “create an integrated, humane city in which architecture and exterior space are inextricably fused”.⁶ Throughout most of human history the networks of streets and squares functioned as the principal structure for civic design and spatial organisation.⁷ Arriving in Sydney in 1810, Governor Lachlan Macquarie recognised the value of creating town squares around which important civic buildings would be built.

Liverpool, the first Macquarie town and only the fourth permanent European settlement in Australia after Sydney, Parramatta and Hobart, lies on the Georges River, to the southwest of Sydney, the gateway to the fertile lands of Appin, Camden and, further south, Illawarra and the Southern Highlands. Under Lachlan Macquarie’s governorship, roads were either built or improved, including the road to Liverpool, thereby encouraging growth of the settlement. Liverpool was to have a church, a gaol, a school house, and a guard-house. Leases were to be granted to free mechanics who settled there, and Mr Thomas Moore, that most devout and steady citizen whose infinite piety later had expression in the foundation of the Moore Theological college, was to be the town’s chief magistrate. All of the towns [including those on the Hawkesbury and Nepean] were to have commons.⁸ By 1819, Liverpool was a small township with about thirty houses.⁹ The site which is known today as Bigge Park was part of a larger portion of land identified by Governor Macquarie in 1810 as ‘a large allotment of six acres of Ground in the centre of the Town of Liverpool intended for a Public Market Place and annual Fair enclosed with a Strong Fence’.¹⁰ Evidence that it was used for these specific purposes has not been located but the site had acquired its association with Commissioner J T Bigge by 1819 when it was identified as Bigges Square on the Plan of the Township of Liverpool 1819 (Figure 5) and further supported in 1826 when it was referred to in the *Sydney Gazette* as the site of a handsome square in honour of J T Bigge.¹¹

The boundary of the reserve (which is rhomboidal in shape rather than square) was shown on a plan drawn by Robert Hoddle in 1827, extending from Elizabeth Street to Scott Street and from Bigge Street to the Georges River. Many of the town’s public buildings were located around its perimeter, including the hospital, gaol, school and courthouse. Bigge Park is located close to a bend on the Georges River and a mill

⁶ Trancik 1986, p103

⁷ Ibid

⁸ Ellis1978, p205

⁹ Turnbull, p442

¹⁰ *Historical Records of Australia Series 1, Volume X*; 684. Bigge Park has been referred to by other names, including Moore Park in the Wheeler Estate subdivision plan, 1884 and Liverpool Common in the Sydney Railway: plan showing the portion of government ground proposed for the railway station and approaches at the town of Liverpool, c 18550, both documents held by LCC, Local Studies Collection

¹¹ John Thomas Bigge, an English judge and Royal commissioner, was sent to the colony in 1819 to examine the effectiveness of transportation as a deterrent to felony and to report on the state of the colony and its administration. He clashed with Governor Macquarie and was highly critical of Macquarie’s management of colonial affairs.

was located on land later excised for railway purposes. The structure shown on the plan in Bigges Square in Figure 6 is likely to have been erected as a store.¹²



Figure 5 Undated portrait of Thomas John Bigge. (Source: John Oxley Library, State Library of Queensland, accessed at <http://trove.nla.gov.au/version/167831797> on 19 January 2015)



Figure 6 Plan of the Township of Liverpool, drawn by James Meehan, 1819, with Bigge Square arrowed black. (Source: SRNSW SZ293 (1819), reproduced from Mayne Wilson & Associates 2014).

¹² Casey & Lowe, Comments on archaeological considerations regarding proposed works in Bigge Park, June 2012; annotations to 1819 plan of the Town of Liverpool.

Little documentation is available about the site or its use during the early 19th century. There is some evidence that it was a site of convict punishment, perhaps because of its location adjacent to the courthouse. *“It is said that the gallows threw its shadow across Bigge's Square, four men being hanged there in the very early days, when hanging was made a spectacular ceremony. In front of the old gaol were stocks[and] a triangle behind [for floggings].”*¹³ The convict James Curtis was the scourger at Liverpool, plying his trade in Bigge's Square. In 1822 he petitioned the government for a salary, as was allowed to floggers in other places. At the behest of the magistrates, Curtis was kept busy, administering 1,298 lashes in the last three months of 1824.¹⁴ For failing to attend Reverend Cartwright's service at St Luke's Church, Thomas Fletcher was required to spend three hours in the stocks in Bigge's Square.¹⁵



Figure 7 Part of the Plan of the Town of Liverpool, drawn by Robert Hoddle, 1827. (Source: SRNSW 3339)

¹³ *Liverpool News*, 13 February 1941, p4

¹⁴ Keating 1996, p60

¹⁵ Keating 1996, p60

On 9 September 1836 a public meeting was held at Liverpool to petition Governor Richard Bourke for a number of things including the enclosure of Bigge's Square from the Hospital Common to Drummond's Wharf on the Georges River and for the confirmation of the town common which had been promised by Governor Macquarie. The land almost certainly served as a public common and was grazed by stock, traversed as a thoroughfare and possibly used for recreation purposes.

Documentary evidence shows that a portion of land in the south-eastern corner had been excised by 1843¹⁶ [but the purpose of that is not clear] and again in 1855-6 following the extension of the rail line from Sydney to Liverpool.¹⁷ These excisions created the park boundary largely as it is today.

2.1.6 Bigge Park – dedicated for public recreation

By the 18th century there was an increasing debate in England about the nature of beauty and good taste, particularly in regard to the landscape. Terms like 'the Sublime', 'the Beautiful' and 'the Picturesque' were the subject of much discussion, reaching all aspects of art, literature, landscape, gardening, design, philosophy and travel. Although at first this debate centred on the upper classes and their land, by the 1830s the ideas had filtered down to the growing middle classes and civic authorities. Philanthropic motives led certain individuals to promote improved facilities for the public. In 1833 a Select Committee in Britain expressed alarm over the loss of open space in London during the building boom after the Napoleonic wars and recommended the creation of new public walks to compensate the population for the amenities they had lost. A small and short-lived park designed by John Claudius Loudon was created at Gravesend in the 1830s¹⁸. Then followed major development of British municipal parks in the 19th century in places like Sheffield (1836), Derby (the Arboretum 1840), Liverpool (1836 and 1842-44) and Manchester (1846), with accelerated development between 1845 and 1859. A similar trend happened in New South Wales. Part of the common land reserved by Governor Phillip for the town's use in 1792, Hyde Park was proclaimed by Macquarie in 1810, and became a racecourse, cricket ground and open space. Without trees until 1854, in later years plantings, civic monuments, paths and buildings were all placed in the park.¹⁹ Governor Phillip had established the Governor's Demesne or Domain at Parramatta in 1788 and a large part of that domain was dedicated as Parramatta Park in 1858. Governor Macquarie's vision for the domain left a dominant and lasting impact on the landscape character of the park. In addition to the Governor's residence (now Old Government House), which retains the Macquarie period form, the roadways, structures, cultural plantings, river and boundaries all reflect the design influence of the Macquarie period, as does the town of Parramatta.²⁰

¹⁶ Plan of the Boundaries of Liverpool, 1843

¹⁷ Plan of the Town Allotments of Liverpool, c 1856; Sydney Railway Plan, LCC Local Studies Collection

¹⁸ Watkins & Wright (ed.) 2007, p20

¹⁹ Anne-Marie Whitaker 2008, *Dictionary of Sydney*, accessed at http://www.dictionaryofsydney.org/place/hyde_park

²⁰ Chris Levins 2010, *Dictionary of Sydney*, accessed at http://www.dictionaryofsydney.org/entry/parramatta_park

Bigge Square in Liverpool was dedicated for public recreation in 1868, with the newly incorporated Municipal Council of Liverpool becoming its trustee in 1873. It was described in 1883 as ‘a noble lung presenting a fine arena for local cricketers and footballers’.²¹ During Liverpool’s celebrations of the centenary of European settlement in 1888, there was a procession down Macquarie street and rousing speeches by Mayor James Moreshead. Local man Hugh Murphy, obviously carried away with the excitement of the event, climbed the maypole in Bigge Park in the middle of a dance.²²

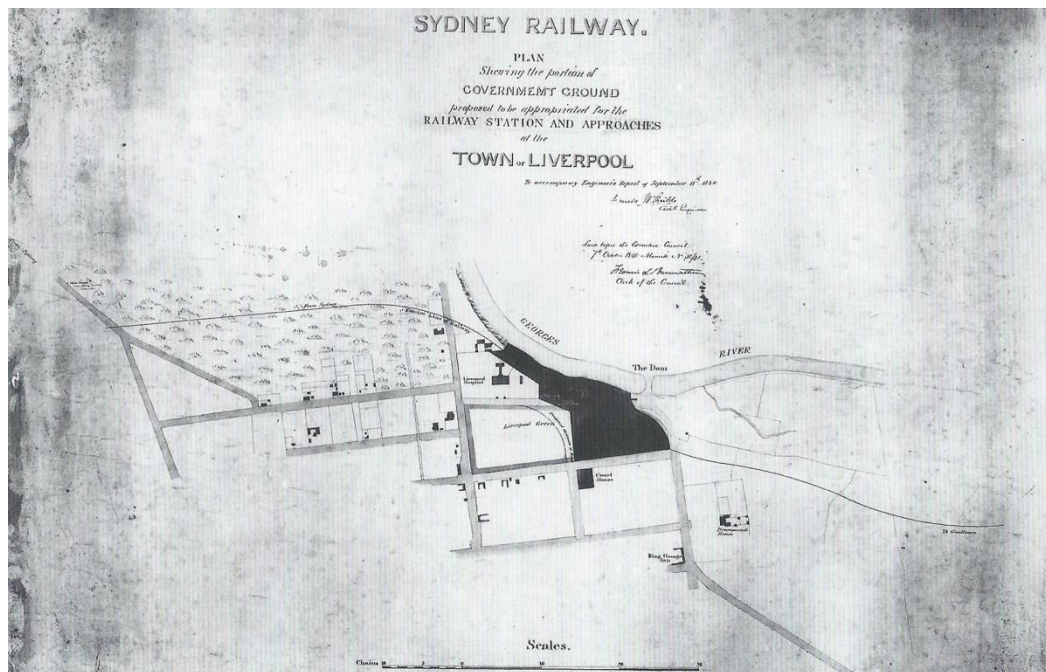


Figure 8 ‘Plan showing the portion of Government Ground proposed to be appropriated for the Railway Station and Approaches at the Town of Liverpool’ for the Sydney Railway. On this plan Bigge Park is shown as Liverpool Green. (Source: State Records NSW, reproduced in Liston p30)

When the site was threatened with further alienation for railway development in 1891, there was some suggestion that compensation of £2,000 could be put towards the clearing ground, forming and planting a new park for the residents of Liverpool – but those plans did not proceed.²³

²¹ Fullers Country of Cumberland Yearbook 1883, cited by EDAW

²² Keating 1996, p114

²³ Evening News (Sydney), 24 February 1891, p2

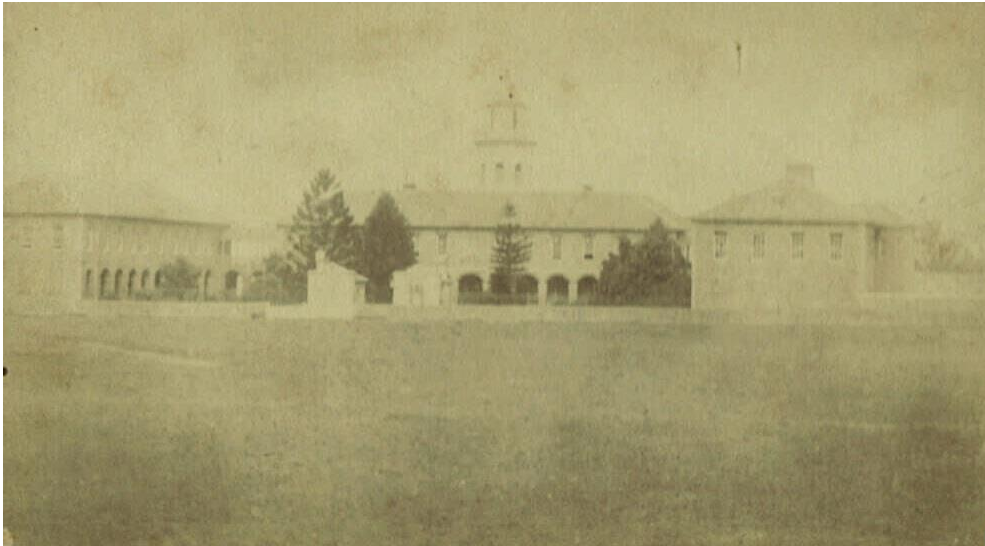


Figure 9: Looking across Bigge Park towards Liverpool Hospital, late 19th century, showing a faint track diagonally crossing the ground. (Source: LCC Library, Local Studies Collection).



Figure 10: View from Bigge Park to Liverpool Benevolent Asylum, 1876. The College Street boundary of the park appears to be fenced with a dilapidated timber paling fence. (Source: <http://www.swslhd.nsw.gov.au/liverpool/history.html>)

Plans dated 1875 and 1898²⁴ show no structures within the park but the 1886 photograph (Figure 11) appears to show a shed on the western boundary.

²⁴ Casey & Lowe 2012, map & plan search

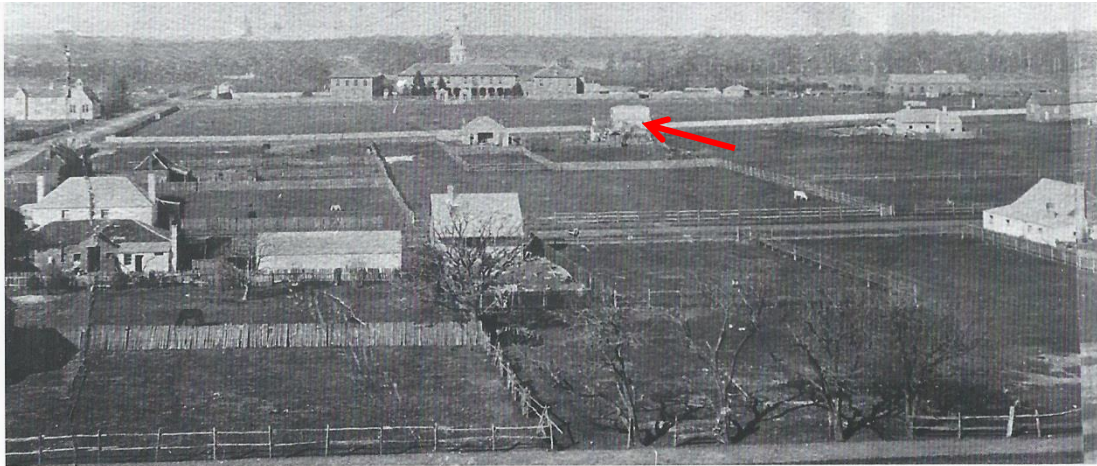


Figure 11 View looking east across part of a sparsely settled Liverpool in 1886, showing scattered dwellings with paddocks and a very bare Bigge Park, with the asylum dominating the background, Moore Theological College at far left and the Railway Station to the right in the background. The structure (arrowed red) may be just inside the park's western boundary and may have been a shed for use of sporting teams. (Source: NSW State Records, reproduced in Liston p37)

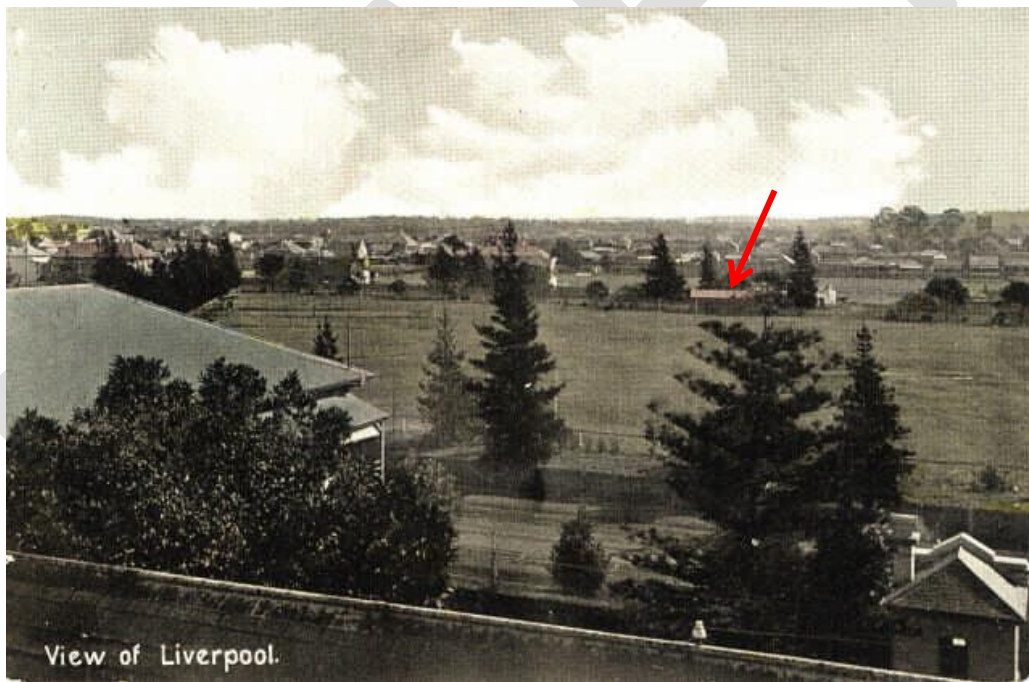


Figure 12 View to southwest across Bigge Park from Liverpool Hospital, early 20th century. This view, apparently taken from the hospital tower or cupola, shows the park as largely grassed open space, with a row of pines along the south boundary and scattered pines along the western and eastern boundaries. There appears to be a shed (arrowed red) in approximately the same location as that in Figure 11. (Source: LCC Library, Local Studies Collection)

On summer afternoons round the turn of the 19th century locals could relax in Bigge Park and listen to the music of the 19-strong Liverpool Brass Band, featuring Bert

Wheeler on bass drum, Jack Simons on tuba and four members of the Deadman family (Bosun, Stephen, Bob and young Eric) adding to the ambience.²⁶

2.1.7 Park alienations for sectional sporting interests

The *Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate* in 1901 noted that ‘men are now at work under the supervision of the Parks Committee, effecting improvements to Bigge Square, Liverpool. The gardens are to be tilled and the trees pruned. The fences and gates also are to be repaired and painted.’²⁷ A report by Liverpool Municipal Council’s Parks Committee in 1906 stated that improvements had been effected to Bigge-square Park but just what these improvements were is not known, although they may have been the fencing and planting visible in Figure 13²⁸.

In the 1920s the open space of Bigge Park appears to have been divided into two grounds, the upper and lower. The Liverpool District Football Club was granted permission in 1922 to use the lower football ground in Bigge Park, subject to the usual conditions.²⁹



Figure 13: Bigge Park, looking towards Liverpool Hospital, c1906. There are trellis-like stiles for crossing the aris rail fence at right. The purpose of the fenced enclosure on the eastern side is not known but the higher fence and small pavilion suggest the area may have been a tennis court. (Source: LCC Library, Local Studies Collection)

By 1925 there was obviously some sort of shed in the park because in April that year the Cooee Football Club was granted permission to use “the shed in Bigge Park” for training purposes on Tuesday and Thursday nights, provided the club secretary

²⁶ *Liverpool Herald*, 20 January 1900; *Liverpool Leader*, 19 July 1961, cited in Keating 1996, p11

²⁷ *Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate*, 1 May 1901, p2

²⁸ *Liverpool Herald* 7 July 1906, p7 accessed at <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article37377083>

²⁹ *Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate*, 17 March 1922, accessed at <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article105917007>

made sure the shed was left in good condition.³⁰ This shed was probably the one located on the park's western boundary, as shown in Figures 11 and 12.

Land along the Moore Street boundary of Bigge Park was provided for the Liverpool Tennis Club in the 1920s, with the Southern Districts Tennis association established in 1922. Three courts and a pavilion were in place by 1943 (see Figure 14). The tennis courts are now come under Council's Generic Plan of Management for Sportsgrounds and are privately leased. They are now available for hire by members of the public and The Courtside Café operates from the pavilion.

In 1928, the Liverpool Town Band requested the construction of a rotunda for their use for Sunday evening recitals and suggested that storage for cricket equipment could be provided in the space below the bandstand.³¹

Bigge Park in the 1920s appears to have been a wild place at times, with newspaper reports of indecent behaviour³² and riotous behaviour after football matches.³³ It was also not without its hazards. In 1923 parents were warned that the park, "a daily playground for scores of children" was inhabited by "one of the most deadly" reptiles, after the killing of a large black snake.³⁴ In the late 1920s the maintenance of Bigge Park obviously left something to be desired, with reports of a man breaking his leg in a hole in the park³⁵ and members of the Pirates football club tripping on long grass³⁶.

During the 1930s, there was criticism in the press about the condition of the park which, despite its sporting use, appears to have been neglected and had become a rendezvous for occasional 'straying stock'.³⁷ In 1932 Council received a deputation from local cricket and football clubs to have part of the park dedicated for their use.³⁸ The park was described as an eyesore in 1935 and identified for upgrading in a future town beautification scheme.³⁹

In 1936, despite objections that the park was there as a quiet sanctuary for all sections of the community, Council approved Sunday use of the Park for football, cricket, baseball and other sports including hockey and cycling, provided they were played outside church hours.⁴⁰ The installation of an electric floodlight at the top end of the Park in 1937 was welcomed by the community, as was the installation of a new concrete cricket pitch in August 1938, the latter celebrated with a spirited cricket

³⁰ *Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate*, 24 April 1925, accessed at <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article103761620>

³¹ *Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate*, 19 November 1928, p2

³² *Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate*, 26 May 1923

³³ *Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate*, 20 August 1921

³⁴ *Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate*, 24 November 1923

³⁵ *Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate*, 30 July 1926

³⁶ *Evening News*, 14 June 1928 p6

³⁷ *Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate*, 16 June 1932, p15

³⁸ *Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate* 16 June 1932, accessed at <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article105929645>

³⁹ *Liverpool News*, 21 June 1935, p7

⁴⁰ *The Biz* (Fairfield), 8 May 1936, p7

match between the aldermen and staff of Council.⁴¹ Among the many clubs to use this space were Moorebank Cricket Club after their home ground on Department of Defence land became no longer available, and teams competing in the Southern District Cricket Association competitions.

In 1937, the state of Bigge Park was again criticised as ‘scandalous’ by Alderman Childs who noted that paspalum and weeds had overtaken the grass and suggested that relief workers be employed to dig them out. The criticism prompted Council to seriously consider the beautification of the park and agree on funding the erection of perimeter fencing as a first step.

That same year, the estimated construction costs for clubhouses for the bowling and tennis clubs caused Council some angst when the tenders were opened: they ranged from £796 14s to £556 18s for the bowling clubhouse and £630 to £337 12s for the tennis clubhouse. After considerable discussion, Council decided not to accept any of the tenders, but resolved to revise the original plans and use Council’s day labour at award rates to carry out the work as a measure to reduce the costs.⁴²

The proximity of Bigge Park to the Liverpool Benevolent Asylum (formerly Liverpool Hospital) was a point of continuing concern to Council and residents, who complained to the NSW government that ‘the inhabitants (of Liverpool) whom we represent complained that they are sickened to see the cancerous and consumptive men walking the streets and other ailing patients sitting in hotels and recreation grounds.’⁴³ Concerned that young children could be in physical danger from the men from the asylum, Alderman Taylor proposed that Council establish a wire-enclosed children’s playground in the Park in 1938. He was supported by prominent local identities who, along with the Mayor, had visited a number of playgrounds to investigate their layouts and equipment; with the view to installing one adjacent to the tennis courts. They suggested that seats could be provided and play equipment including ‘ocean waves, sea-saws, swings, horizontal bars, travelling rings, a climbing pole, flying rings and a trapeze’ be acquired for £100. The proponents were prepared to raise funds through carnivals, cinema screenings, concerts and street fairs to match a Council loan or grant.⁴⁴ Encouragement for such projects was given by the Parks and Playgrounds Commission to encourage healthy outdoor and creative play.

Bigge Park had remained for over a century as essentially a large grassed open space, with evidence in old photographs of perimeter planting, mostly pine trees. In March 1939, Alderman Taylor submitted a sketch plan to beautify the park which included the planting of trees and shrubs to be supplied by the Forestry Commission, a defined layout with garden beds and the oval consolidated by a dwarf stone wall

⁴¹ *Liverpool News*, 11 August 1938, p1

⁴² *Liverpool News*, 20 May 1937, p1

⁴³ *Brief History of Liverpool Hospital* accessed at

<http://www.swslhd.nsw.gov.au/liverpool200/history.html>

⁴⁴ *Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate* 3 August 1938 p 13

and fence, all to be maintained by a gardener.⁴⁵ This plan evolved to include the children's playground Taylor had promoted earlier, seating, public conveniences, dressing shed (although the first plans for the dressing shed were destroyed in a fire in May 1939), a double row of trees, to be planted by older residents and school children around the Park and a drive between the trees on the western side. In acknowledgement of the rise in popularity of the motor car, a car park was suggested near a new entrance from Bigge Street just below Moore Street.⁴⁶

This phase of tree-planting in Bigge Park appears to have not been particularly successful if an article in the *Liverpool News* of August 1939 is to be believed.⁴⁷ A tender submitted by Sydney Fence and Gate Company for 146 17s 6d was accepted and by October 1939, a neat white painted wooden perimeter fence had been completed.⁴⁸

Liverpool Mayor Alderman A J Childs reported in March 1940 that lavatories in Bigge Park had been completed and that the job appeared to be entirely satisfactory. Council resolved that the toilets be open from 7.30am till 9.30pm and that electric light would be installed. The Mayor praised the contractor Mr H E Wearne for a splendid job.⁴⁹ Liverpool Regal Football Club, which sought permission to use the Park for competition matches on Saturdays, practice matches on Sundays and training on Tuesday and Friday evenings, were told that they would need to provide their own facilities for dressing sheds as an interim measure,⁵⁰ although lavatories had already been completed. Apparently these conveniences were unsatisfactory as changing rooms and the football club agitated for urgent action, claiming that other teams would not visit because of the inadequate facilities.⁵¹ No mention is made of the location of these lavatories but it is assumed they were on the Moore Street boundary, near the tennis courts.

In the first half of 1941 Council had sold its tractor and resolved that the proceeds from the sale should be put towards the cost of dressing sheds, with Council's inspector asked to draw up plans for the building.⁵² On 8 July 1941 Council resolved to call tenders as soon as possible for the erection of dressing sheds in the eastern part of the park, at an estimated cost of £300 but deferred a decision on the construction of a chain wire fence around the playing area, estimated to cost £144.⁵³ The dressing sheds were to be of face brick construction, with a tiled roof, and comprising two rooms 14 feet (4.27m) x 13 feet (3.05m), with showers.⁵⁴ When no tenders had been received by 5 August 1941, Council resolved to construct the

⁴⁵ *Liverpool News*, 9 March 1939, p2

⁴⁶ *Liverpool News*, 10 August 1939, p2

⁴⁷ *Liverpool News*, 3 August 1939, p1

⁴⁸ *Liverpool News*, 20 May 1937, p1; 19 October 1939, p1

⁴⁹ *Liverpool News* 7 March 1940, p2, accessed at <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article66430056>

⁵⁰ *Liverpool News*, 8 February 1940, p3

⁵¹ *Liverpool News*, 16 May 1940, p1

⁵² *Liverpool News* 29 May 1941, p2, accessed at <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article66434279>

⁵³ *Liverpool News* 10 July 1941 p2, accessed at <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article66434697>

⁵⁴ *Liverpool News* 24 July 1941 p2, accessed at <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article66434839>

dressing sheds using day labour, under the supervision of the Mayor and town clerk.⁵⁵

On 17 July 1941 Arbor Day was observed in Bigge Park when local schoolchildren planted 36 ornamental trees around the area of the proposed children's playground. Each tree bore a plaque with the name of the student who planted it and the children were encouraged by the Mayor Ald. Jardine and the headmaster Mr Teasdale to look after the trees and report any damage. This project was part of Council's beautification scheme for the park and press coverage of the event mentions the contribution of the Council's gardener Mr Reg Laing to the success of new works in the park.⁵⁶

In spite of other priorities and shortages of materials, the beautification of Bigge Park was still a priority for Council in the early years of World War II, with a decision to establish a children's playground at a cost of £300, also a dressing shed with showers. At its meeting on 30 September 1941 Council recommended that fifteen seats be installed along the southern end of the park and five seats in the playing area. Council also recommended an alteration in the position of the dressing sheds, to give more room in front of the building and that lavatory accommodation be provided in the dressing sheds, to be connected to the sewer. A suggestion for tar-sealing of the footway on the eastern and southern sides of the children's playground was also adopted.⁵⁷

The fence-line along Moore Street was subsequently altered in 1941 closer to the tennis courts to provide members with a parking area.⁵⁸ This may have been prompted by the club's request to Council in which they cited the need for a parking area from which spectators could watch matches, there being no suitable seating in the park.⁵⁹

'Bigge Park has its attractions for a section of the sporting portion of the community, whilst as for the town common, the least said the better. During the regime of a previous council, holes had been dug in Bigge Park and filled with good soil; but the trees that should now be growing nicely are *non est*. Why were no trees planted?'

⁵⁵ *Liverpool News* 7 August 1941, p2, accessed at <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article66435028>

⁵⁶ *Liverpool News* 24 July 1941, p3, accessed at <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article66434856>

⁵⁷ *Liverpool News* 2 October 1941, p1, accessed at <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article66435554>

⁵⁸ *Liverpool News*, 27 February 1941, p4

⁵⁹ *Liverpool News*, 11 July 1940, p2



Figure 14 1943 air photo of part of Liverpool showing Bigge Park, with the dressing shed arrowed red. The sports field is clearly defined within a circle with central cricket pitch whereas earlier newspaper articles refer to upper (northern) and lower (southern) grounds. The bowling club and tennis club were well established by this date and the building on the Moore Street boundary to the southwest of the tennis courts may have housed public lavatories. The dressing shed can be seen in the upper right-hand portion. The earlier perimeter plantings of pines have gone, replaced by new boundary plantings. The only large trees are near the northeast corner of the park. (Source: *From the skies*, NSW Roads and Traffic Authority, with annotations by Casey and Lowe)

Later that year, Council unanimously agreed that the beautification would proceed and voted £300 for the construction of the children's playground with tar sealing to the footpaths along the eastern and southern sides, the provision of a dressing shed with showers (albeit in a slightly altered position from that originally planned, to give more room in front of the building in relation to the oval) and lavatories inside, connected to the sewer. In addition, 15 seats would be placed at the southern end of the park and 5 inside the children's playground.⁶⁰ The playground was finally completed in 1941. It has since been replaced with the current modern facility which conforms to contemporary playground philosophy and safety standards.

⁶⁰ *Liverpool News*, 2 October, 1941, p2



Figure 15: The present children's playground in Bigge Park. (Photo: C Betteridge, 2014)

Although Council advertised for tenders for the construction of the dressing shed, specified as having two main rooms, 13 x 14 feet, with face brick construction and a tiled roof, it decided that the construction would be done by Council's day labour, under the supervision of the Mayor and Town Clerk.⁶¹ This too was completed in 1941.

A small bowling clubhouse with one green had been erected on the southern side of Bigge Park circa 1936 and can be seen in the 1943 air photo (see Figure 14 above and 1938 photo below).



Figure 16 Members of the Liverpool City Bowling Club pose in front of the original club house in February 1938. (Source: *Liverpool City Champion*)

⁶¹ *Liverpool News*, 24 July 1941; 7 August 1941, p2

In June 1952, in response to a proposal by Liverpool Council to establish swimming baths in Bigge Park, Mr N J Mannix MLA stated that he would be pleased to take the matter up with the Premier and the Minister for Public works, who was also Assistant Minister for Local Government. Mannix saw the major problem being the Loan Council's restrictions on finance to state and local government in the post-war austerity period.⁶² He promised to get back to Council when he had more information but it is clear this proposal did not come to fruition.



Figure 17 Members of the winning Royal NSW Bows Association No.4 Pennant 1956-57 team from the Liverpool City Bowling Club in a local parade. (Source: Liverpool Heritage Collection, reproduced on the Back cover of Liston)



Figure 18 Liverpool City Bowling Club took out many pennant competitions over the years. This is the winning No.4 Pennant team from 1956-57. (Source: *Liverpool City Champion*)

⁶² *The Biz*, 19 June 1952, p2, accessed at <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article75595764>

In 1968 the bowling facilities were considerably expanded to a large club house (currently leased to the Salvation Army) with three greens following the granting of Special Lease 1968-3444 to Albert McGrath, Clifford Williamson and John Goode as Trustees of The Liverpool City Bowling Club for erection of buildings (clubhouse) and recreation. This lease, for the period 4 October to 31 December 2008, applied to the surface and a depth of fifty feet of portion 394, Parish of St Luke, County of Cumberland, an area of 1 acre, 2 roods, 25 ½ perches.⁶³



Figure 19: Panorama of Bigge Park looking south west, c1970s, showing the diagonal pathways, the enclosed children's playground (foreground) and the original war memorial landscaping. (Source: LCC Library, Local Studies Collection)



Figure 20 Jon Fanning, Secretary of Liverpool City Bowling Club photographed at the club at the time of its closure in February 2013. (Source: *Liverpool City Champion*)

After 77 years of operation in Bigge Park, the Liverpool City Bowling Club, the only such facility in the city, closed in July 2013. Declining membership and income had forced the club's board to make the regrettable decision to close the club.⁶⁴

2.1.8 Coping with the post-war 'Baby Boom'

In the years immediately following the end of World War II Australia experienced a baby boom, as service personnel returned home after serving overseas and the general population settled down to what was hoped would be a period of peace and prosperity. Many councils addressed the baby boom by providing health clinics for

⁶³ *NSW Government Gazette* No. 134, 14 November 1969, p4722

⁶⁴ Article by Natalie Pilato and Farah Abdurahman, *The Liverpool Champion*, 2 July 2013

mothers and babies. In 1947-48 Liverpool Municipal Council responded to this growing need with the erection of the Dr James Pirie Memorial Infant Welfare Centre, constructed at the intersection of Bigge and Moore Streets. This centre, with its distinctive single storey curved arc plan, contained baby health care facilities, doctors' consulting rooms, a mothers' rest room and children's library. It honoured the late, local and highly respected local medical practitioner who had devoted his life's work to the welfare of mothers and babies. The centre became an important community facility, providing social support, occasional care services and educational resources for mothers and children throughout the post-war baby boom period. Although providing worthwhile community services, the Pirie Centre represented yet another alienation of public parkland for a sectional interest and its construction blocked a key view into Bigge Park from the Liverpool CBD, resulting in the loss of the historic visual link between the park and the former Court House. In 1969, the building was extended to accommodate additional facilities for community welfare and care and in 1990, disabled access was provided at the rear of the building.



Figure 21: The Dr James Pirie Memorial Infant Welfare Centre, late 1940s, soon after its construction. Landscaping is confined to some perimeter plantings and the planter box around the glazed porch. Power poles are very prominent elements in the landscape which has not yet been softened by tree plantings. (Source: LCC Library, Local Studies Collection)



Figure 22: The Dr Pirie Centre, as it was in late 2014, with lozenge shaped, stone-edged beds of shrubs including azaleas and dwarf nandinas. The light standard is a remnant of those which were previously installed in the park. (Photo: Chris Betteridge)

2.1.9 A place for memorials

The first memorial in Bigge Park appears to have been the sandstone obelisk, commonly known as the Captain Cook Obelisk, currently located in Discovery Park, further south in Liverpool, adjoining College Park and the Regional Museum. This item was originally one of 13 milestone road markers between Liverpool and Campbelltown. Now dilapidated, it was similar in design to the obelisk in Macquarie Place, Sydney and originally stood 12 feet (3.75m) high. It was erected by the Commissioners of the Road Trust during the term of Governor Charles Fitzroy at the intersection of George and Moore Streets, Liverpool and marked the commencement of the road from Liverpool to Campbelltown.^{65 66} It is inscribed with the distance to Sydney (XX or 20 miles) and to Campbelltown (XIII or 13 miles); and with the following tribute:

"In the memory of Captain James Cook RN / The Celebrated Navigator And Discoverer of New South Wales / Born at Morton, Yorkshire 27th October AD 1728 / Killed at the Sandwich Islands / 14th February AD 17[79]"

Thought to be the earliest memorial to Captain James Cook RN in New South Wales, it is believed to have been erected in 1852 at the instigation of Captain Watson RN who as a young boy, reputedly sailed with Cook, and of Reverend James Walker. It

⁶⁵ Crofts, R and S 2013, *Discovering Australia's Historical Milemarkers and Boundary Stones*, Xlibris, p45

⁶⁶ *Sydney Morning Herald*, 4 November 1854, p5

was subsequently relocated to Bigge Park where it was recorded as being in an obscure [unspecified] location and surrounded by a cluster of trees.⁶⁷ Despite a suggestion that a small railing be placed around it and later, that it be moved to a more prominent position in front of the town hall, the obelisk remained in Bigge Park where it was neglected and eventually fell into a state of disrepair. With the creation of Discovery Park as Liverpool's contribution to the Cook Bicentenary in 1970, the obelisk was relocated to become the centrepiece of that park.

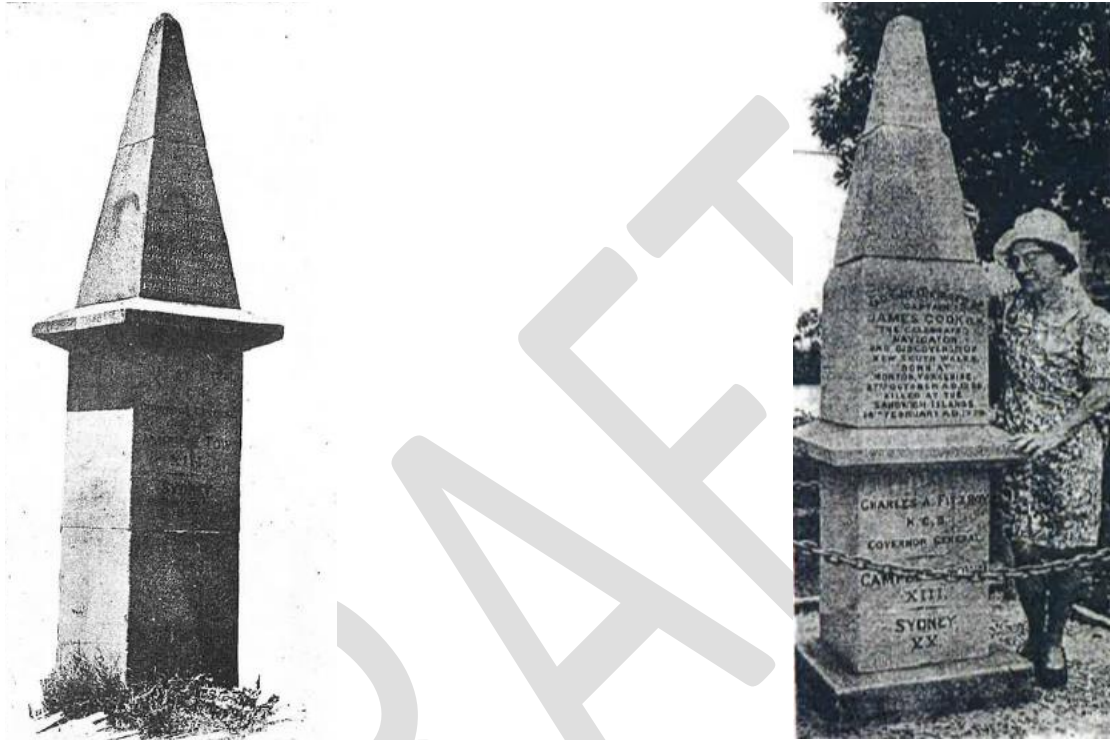


Figure 23 (Left): The Captain Cook obelisk as it appeared in its original location near Liverpool Railway Station. (Source: *Main Roads* vol. XV, no. 4, p130); **(Right):** Mrs O M Havard, President of Liverpool Historical Society photographed at the time of the Cook Bicentenary beside the obelisk, presumably in its second location, near the bowling club in Bigge Park. (Source: *City of Liverpool Champion*, 21 January 1970). From these images it would seem that the stone blocks may have been re-erected in a different order from those in the original.

⁶⁷ *Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate*, 5 December 1914, p6



Figure 24: A forlorn-looking Captain Cook Memorial Obelisk in a sorry state in Discovery Park, Liverpool. This CMP supports the conservation of the obelisk and its relocation to Bigge Park. (Source: LCC Library, Local Studies Collection)

In 1951, the Liverpool Sub-branch of the Returned Sailors, Soldiers and Airmen's Imperial League of Australia (RSSAILA) commemorated the wartime contribution of the people of Liverpool with the dedication of a war memorial, erected by public subscription and located in Memorial Avenue near Macquarie Street, Liverpool. This memorial was dedicated by Lt. Gen. F.H. Berryman, General Officer commanding, Eastern Command.

The mid 1950s marked a significant period in the history of Bigge Park with the completion of a beautification program supported by the Bigge Park Improvement Committee and Liverpool Council and partly funded by the community. Their efforts transformed the park from open space with central sports field into a landscaped municipal park. Two significant architectural features were added to the park at this time – the Rotary clock tower and the T G Scott Memorial gateway..

In 1955, a large brick clock tower in a mid-20th century functionalist style was erected by the Rotary Club of Liverpool in the centre of the park to commemorate the golden (50th) anniversary of the service organisation, Rotary International. The square brick column, surmounted by a four-faced electric clock, was faced with inscribed sandstone panels promoting Rotary's philosophy and a plaque recording the names of office bearers and the architect, Colin Anslow. The column was surrounded by a ring of terraced garden beds planted with small shrubs. The beds were subsequently reduced to one and paving around it shaped with a design suggesting the gears or cogs represented on the Rotary wheel logo.

A wheel has been the symbol of Rotary since its earliest days. The first design was made by Chicago Rotarian Montague Bear, an engraver who drew a simple wagon wheel, with a few lines to show dust and motion. The wheel was said to illustrate "Civilization and Movement." Most of the early clubs had some form of wagon wheel

on their publications and letterheads. In 1918, Oscar Bjorge, Rotarian engineer from Minnesota petitioned Rotary to amend the design of the organisation's wheel logo. He said that a cogwheel with 19 cogs would not work. He said that the emblem had square-cornered teeth of disproportionate size and that the cogs were irregularly spaced. Bjorge said the emblem was "an insult to engineering that only the brain of an artist could conceive." So he sketched a new wheel, with 6 spokes [symbolizing the 6 Objects of Rotary at that time] and 24 cogs or teeth. He also added a keyway, which locks a wheel to a hub, thus making it "a worker and not an idler."

Finally, in 1922, it was decided that all Rotary clubs should adopt a single design as the exclusive emblem of Rotarians. Thus, in 1923, the present gear wheel, with 24 cogs and six spokes was adopted by the "Rotary International Association." A group of engineers advised that the geared wheel was mechanically unsound and would not work without a "keyway" in the centre of the gear to attach it to a power shaft. So, in 1923 the keyway was added and the familiar current design was formally adopted as the official Rotary International emblem. In 1928, the exact specifications of this engineer were written into the *Rotary International Manual of Procedure*, approved at the 1929 Dallas convention. The specifications have been unchanged ever since. The geared Rotary wheel appears today throughout the world on millions of lapel pins, flags, ties, jewellery of all sorts, etc. It has been pasted on billboards and postage stamps in more than 100 countries. The Rotary wheel started as an idea in the mind of founder Paul Harris more than 100 years ago and has remained in its present form for more than 75 years.⁶⁸



Figure 25: The Rotary clocktower in Bigge Park, c 1956, soon after its construction. (Source: LCC Library, Local Studies Collection)

⁶⁸ <http://www.icufr.org/abc/abc01.htm>

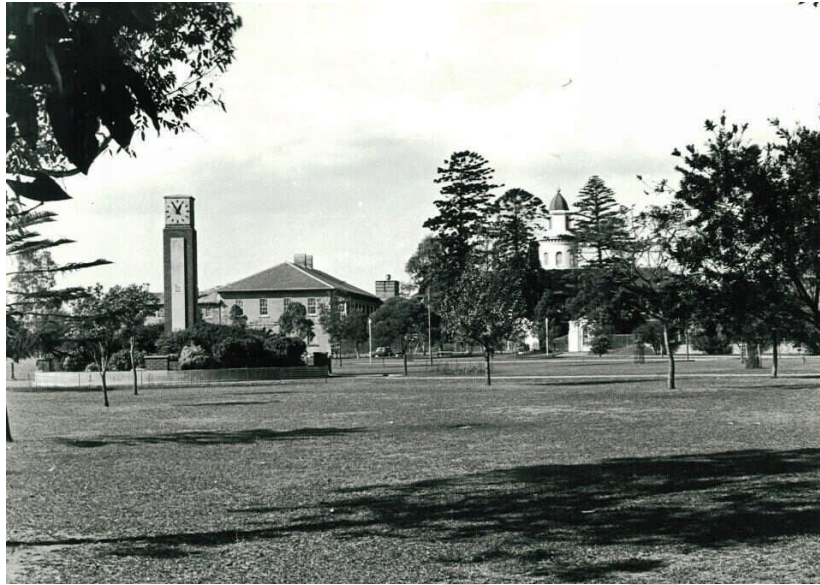


Figure 26: A view looking northeast across Bigge Park in 1963 to the Rotary clock tower, with the former Liverpool Hospital / Asylum buildings in the background. By this time the shrubs planted around the clock tower had grown considerably. (Source: LCC Library, Local Studies Collection)



Figure 27: A view looking southwest across Bigge Park, showing the Rotary clock tower, c1985. At this time the clocktower was surrounded by dense shrubberies, since replaced by lower plantings. (Source: LCC Library, Local Studies Collection)



Figure 28: Detail of the Rotary clock tower showing the textured brick construction with inscribed sandstone panels. (Photos: C Betteridge, 2014)



Figure 29: Aerial photograph (left) of the Rotary clocktower showing the paving interpreting the gear wheel (right) on the Rotary International logo. (Sources: (left): Google Maps; (right): <http://www.rotaryfirst100.org/history/history/wheel/cogs.htm#.VLn7oEeUeSo>)

In 1956, a rendered concrete gateway portal to Bigge Park was erected mid-way along Bigge Street and dedicated to the efforts of the Bigge Park Improvement Committee, Liverpool Council and local citizens and organisations. Displaying elements of the Moderne style, the asymmetric portal features a circular column at one side and a wider column with rounded ends at the other. The columns support an organically shaped concrete canopy perforated with circular holes and fitted with circular lights on its under surface.



Figure 30: T G Scott Memorial gateway on the Bigge Street boundary of Bigge Park, with the soundshell visible in the centre background. (Photo: Chris Betteridge, 9 October 2014)

A plaque in memory of the late Thomas George Scott was affixed to the northern column of the gateway in recognition of his outstanding continuous service as a councillor of Nepean Shire Council and his contribution to local government. Another plaque, on the southern column, commemorates the work of the Bigge Park Management Committee, Liverpool Municipal Council and the generosity of local citizens and organisations.



Figure 31: Plaques attached to the T G Scott Memorial gateway entrance to Bigge Park. (Photos: Margaret Betteridge, 24 November 2014)

Another contribution to the use of Bigge Park as a place for memorials was a drinking fountain, located near the northern Elizabeth Street boundary of the park and erected in 1956 in memory of Thomas Moore, a pioneer of the Liverpool district. Thomas Moore (1762-1840) was a sailor, boat builder, farmer and philanthropist and in 1810 became Liverpool's first citizen, occupying a grant at what is now Moorebank.⁶⁹



Figure 32: Brick and sandstone drinking fountain in memory of local pioneer Thomas Moore. (Photo: Chris Betteridge, 12 December 2014)

In 1960, the Liverpool District Historical Society organised a commemoration of the 1810 establishment of the town of Liverpool and its naming after the English politician, the 2nd Earl of Liverpool who was at the time the Secretary of State for the Colonies, with the dedication of a plaque by the Governor of NSW, Sir Eric Woodward. This sandstone monument with engraved granite plaque is located near the eastern boundary of Bigge Park, close to the former Liverpool Hospital.

⁶⁹ M. L. Loane, 'Moore, Thomas (1762–1840)', *Australian Dictionary of Biography*, National Centre of Biography, Australian National University, <http://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/moore-thomas-2476/text3325>, published first in hardcopy 1967, accessed online 17 January 2015.

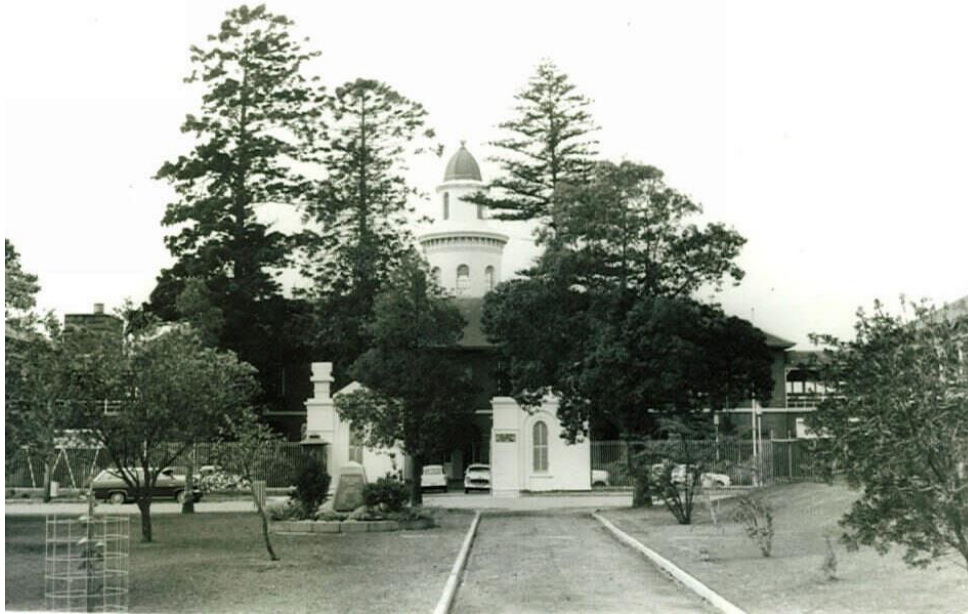


Figure 33: View looking east towards the former Liverpool Hospital 1966, showing the memorial to the establishment of Liverpool, at that time set within a landscaped garden bed. (Source: LCC Library, Local Studies Collection)



Figure 34: Details of the memorial obelisk unveiled in 1960 to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the establishment of Liverpool in 1810. (Photos: Chris Betteridge 24 November 2014)

In 1965, a new war memorial was constructed in Bigge Park, replacing the two memorial pillars on Memorial Avenue. The new memorial comprised a single brick pillar, inscribed Liverpool War Memorial, to which were affixed the plaques from the original memorial, surmounted by a light, and set within a garden planted with rosemary (for remembrance). Adjacent to the pillar was a stepped sunken pool of remembrance, enclosed within a low brick wall, with a small waterfall in the middle. The upper section of the pool featured a stone cairn of natural bush rocks surmounted by a white-painted timber cross with a serviceman's slouch hat,

symbolising a battlefield grave. The lower section of the pool, with a single piece of stone, and fed with water from the upper pool, was intended to be more reflective. A number of small rose gardens were planted nearby.



Figure 35: The natural bush rock cairn with cross surmount, part of the war memorial constructed in Bigge Park, 1966. (Source: LCC Library, Local Studies Collection).



Figure 36: View of the newly completed war memorial, 1965, showing the upper section with columns, the lower reflective pool and garden areas. One of the tennis courts is at right, with the bowling club (right of centre) and part of the former Liverpool Hospital in the background. (Source: LCC Library, Local Studies Collection)



Figure 37: Two images of Liverpool District War Memorial, Bigge Park, circa 1990-2000. (Source: Monument Australia, accessed at <http://monumentaustalia.org.au>)

A dedication plaque was added at the Pool of Remembrance, and unveiled by Sir William Yeo CBE, State President RSS & AILA on 6 November 1965. An additional memorial was added on 14 August 2005 to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the victory in the Pacific which ended World War II. It is dedicated to the memory of all the men and women who gave up their youth to serve their country in the battles against the invaders of the Pacific area during that conflict.



Figure 38: Plaque installed in 2005, commemorating the 60th anniversary of victory in the Pacific in 1945. (Photo: C Betteridge, 2014)

The old war memorial was decommissioned in 2008 and replaced by a new memorial and landscaping incorporating the earlier plaques. This new memorial was dedicated on 14 October 2009 and unveiled by then Governor-General, Quentin Bryce.



Figure 39: Two images of the current City of Liverpool Regional War Memorial, unveiled in 2009. (Photos: C Betteridge, 2014)



Figure 40 Part of the City of Liverpool Regional War Memorial, comprising a concrete path running along the western side of the former bowling green, flanked by low hedges including rosemary and with bronze memorial plaques on concrete 'slopers'. (Photo: Chris Betteridge, 2014)



Figure 41: The landscaping of the new 2009 City of Liverpool Regional War Memorial incorporates the two 1951 plaques from the original pillars on Memorial Avenue. (Photo: C Betteridge 2014)

Sir Eric Woodward's successor, Sir Roden Cutler VC unveiled a plaque on 7 November 1980, Liverpool's inaugural Heritage Day, commemorating the 170th anniversary of the founding and naming of Liverpool by Governor Lachlan Macquarie on 7 November 1810.



Figure 42: Heritage Day commemoration brass plaque fixed to a basalt boulder set on pavers. (Photo: Chris Betteridge, 9 October 2014)



Figure 43 Plaque on sloper installed in Bigge Park on Day of Action Against Sexual Violence 31 August 2006. The tree planted at the same time no longer survives. (Photo: Chris Betteridge, 9 October 2014)

2.1.10 A focus for community events

Bigge Park has undoubtedly played an important role in the community and civic life of Liverpool and references have been made in secondary sources to a variety of activities – from Diamond Jubilee celebrations for Queen Victoria (1897), a field kitchen for Lord Kitchener's troops in 1909 to outdoor film screenings. None of these

uses has been verifiable from primary documents during the course of research for this CMP. Certainly, from the 1950s, following the major beautification phase, Bigge Park has played an increasingly important role as a venue for community and civic events. Some of these have been associated with the planting of trees to commemorate anniversaries or causes.

In 1974, a concrete music shell, designed by J D Sim & Associates, as a memorial to former mayor of Liverpool, Alex Grimson, was erected for concert performances. Officially opened on 20 September 1974 by Mayor Joe Durrant,⁷⁰ the music shell survives today, in spite of its threatened demolition in the 1990s. A recent heritage assessment report on the music shell does not find the structure is of heritage significance.⁷¹

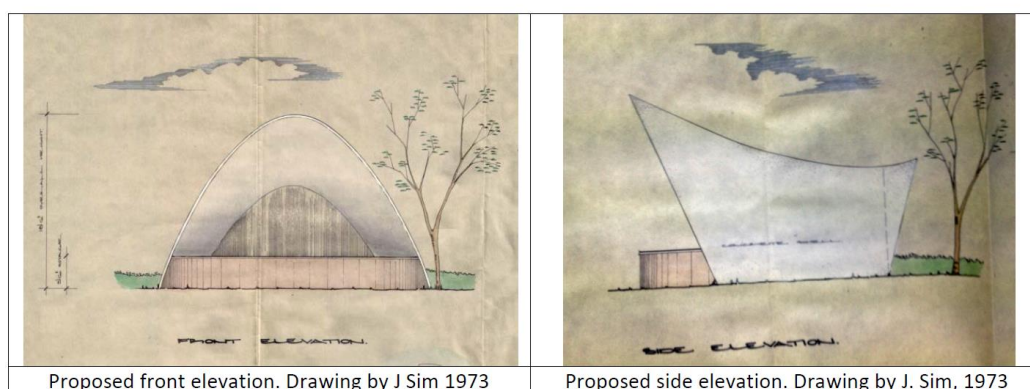


Figure 44 Elevations of the Bigge Park Music Shell, designed by architect J Sim in 1973 and erected in the park in 1974. (Source: LCC files, scans reproduced from Mayne Wilson & Associates 2014)

In 2003, Liverpool Council canvassed public opinion for a radical remodelling of Bigge Park which sought to remove the music shell, many of the memorials, the tennis and bowling clubs – and to create an underground car park covered by a glass pyramid. In a nod to its early colonial significance, the plan included an avenue of jacarandas to mark the link, now lost, to the city's two oldest buildings – the former Liverpool Hospital (now Liverpool College, part of the Southwest Sydney Institute of TAFE NSW)⁷² and Australia's oldest Anglican church, St Luke's. These plans did not proceed.⁷³

⁷⁰ *Liverpool Cabramatta Fairfield Champion* 17 September 1974, p60

⁷¹ Warwick Mayne-Wilson 2014

⁷² <https://swsi.tafensw.edu.au/Colleges/find-a-college/Liverpool>

⁷³ *Sydney Morning Herald*, online, 28 February 2003



Figure 45: Ceremonial parade associated with the granting of Freedom of Entry to the City of Liverpool to the Royal Australian Engineers, 1959. (Source: LCC Library, Local Studies Collection)



Figure 46: Civic Reception for Michael Wendon, champion swimmer following his gold medal success in the Olympic Games in Mexico in 1968. (Source: LCC Library, Local Studies Collection)



Figure 47: Celebrations for Naidoc Week 2014 in Bigge Park. (Photos: *South West Advertiser*, 15 July 2014)

2.1.11 Future directions for Bigge Park

Over the years there have been numerous proposals for the upgrading of Bigge Park including a Heritage and Landscape Management Plan prepared by landscape architects and urban planners EDAW (Australia) Pty Ltd in 1996 and the Council-prepared Plan of Management in 2008 but by 2013 there was concern again being expressed by the community and councillors that the park was looking dilapidated, under-used and unloved. One Chipping Norton resident stated to the press that “the centre of Liverpool is well and truly dated and in Bigge Park there are tables and chairs which were donated by the Rotary Club in 1965.”⁷⁴

In 2013 Council engaged urban designer Ed Blakely to advise on a City Centre Revitalisation Plan for Liverpool, to include the following precincts:

- Macquarie Mall
- Medical precinct/ Bigge Park
- Southern city centre “eat street”
- Gateways to the City
- Linkages to the Georges River

The Revitalisation Plan is being implemented in three phases:

- Phase 1: Establish strategic design briefs.
- Phase 2: Design Competition panel.
- Phase 3: Selected teams workshop with shared data, council critiques and an open community forum.

In December 2013, Urbis with LAVA and WAX were commissioned by Liverpool City Council to develop an urban design concept for the Bigge Park Precinct as part of the Liverpool City Centre Revitalisation project, a long term development programme for the City. The resultant concept design includes the following strategies:

- Reclaim the historic park boundaries
- Celebrate the local heritage

⁷⁴ Article by Anne Tarasov in the *Liverpool City Champion*, 20 November 2013

- Respond to the park role as a major civic place
- Provide an opportunity for a range of activities and events including, cultural, recreational, social/leisure and environmental activities.

At the time of completion of the draft of this CMP, Urbis had completed the Final Draft Landscape Design Development Package for Bigge Park to 90% completion stage. The major aspects of this package are:

- Removal of bowling greens;
- Removal of music shell;
- Retention of tennis courts and courtside café;
- Construction of a circular path around the park to interpret the location of the 1940s playing field;
- Replacement of existing paving materials with more suitable, more uniform material;
- Relocation of some memorials to nodes around the new circular path, with seating and lighting;
- Conversion of the former dressing shed / pump house to a café;
- Improved edge treatments to define the park boundaries better;
- New landscaping to the eastern side of the park to enhance the visual link between the park and the former Liverpool Hospital / Asylum;
- Relocation of restored Cook Obelisk from Discovery Park to an appropriate location in Bigge Park.

In October 2014 expressions of Interest were invited from suitably experienced and qualified contractors to operate a Cafe Service in Bigge Park, to be located in the former Dressing Shed / Pump House.⁷⁵ A separate Heritage Impact Statement was prepared by **MUSEcape** for this work and the café commenced operation in late January 2015

2.2 Bigge Park timeline

Set out in the table below is a timeline of the history of Bigge Park in the context of other developments in the Liverpool local government area and other relevant events in New South Wales.

Year	Development / Event
1788	First Fleet arrives at Botany Bay and the establishes settlement at Sydney Cove, Port Jackson. Redoubt built at Parramatta.
1795	George Bass and Matthew Flinders explore the Georges River in advance of the European colonisation of the Liverpool area. Thompson Square created at Windsor
1798	First land grants in Liverpool area - on the bend of the Georges River - to George Johnston, James Healey, Michael Murphy, John Wixstead and Thomas Rowley.

⁷⁵ LG Tenders Notice #LVPOOL-656921EOI 2396 – Café Service for Bigge Park, Liverpool

Year	Development / Event
1804/05	Grants to Eber Bunker, the 'father of Australian whaling' who built Collingwood and Thomas Moore who built Moorebank.
1809	Serious flooding along the Georges River forces people from their homes. James Badgery is granted land between South Creek and what later became Badgerys Creek and built Exeter Farm. On 31 December Governor Lachlan Macquarie arrives in Sydney.
1810	Liverpool, named in honour of the Earl of Liverpool, then Secretary of State for Colonies is proclaimed a township on 7 November, becoming Australia's fourth European settlement, after Sydney, Parramatta and Hobart. Collingwood built on Eber Bunker's land. On 13 October Governor Macquarie separates an area at the southern end of the Sydney Domain and names it Hyde Park, dedicated for the "recreation and amusement of the inhabitants of the town and a field of exercises for the troops". He keeps the Domain for his own exclusive use. Town Square at Wilberforce proclaimed by Macquarie. The Great Square (now McQuade Park) created at Windsor, one of the five 'Macquarie Towns'.
1811	Liverpool's first school house probably built this year. Military barracks nearing completion. The Great Square (now Richmond Park) created at Richmond as part of the plan for another one of the five 'Macquarie Towns'.
1813	Road from Sydney to Liverpool completed. Macquarie approves plan for George Town, Tasmania, including Regent Square.
1818	Foundation stone for St Luke's church laid by Gov. Macquarie.
1819	Bigge Park (originally Bigges Square) and Bigge Street named in honour of John Thomas Bigge, judge, Commissioner of Inquiry into the Colony of New South Wales. Liverpool at this time is a small township with about 30 houses, mostly simple slab dwellings with shingle roofs.
1821	Richard Guise is the first person buried in what is now Pioneers' Memorial Park.
1822	Liverpool chosen as site for a major hospital because of its 'pure air and sweet water'. Foundations started for Liverpool Hospital (now Liverpool College of TAFE), the original design by architect Francis Greenway. Macquarie leaves New South Wales and comments that when he first came to Liverpool in 1810 it was a thick forest, it now contained "a handsome neat brick-built church, a brick-built hospital, a provision store, barrack, school-house, parsonage house, gaol and several other government buildings". He also mentions "a wooden wharf or quay, in the centre of town, to which vessels of 50 tonnes can come to load and unload, which trade from Sydney to Liverpool, by way of Botany Bay."
1825	Date engraved over door of Hospital but may be year roof was put on.
1827	Bigge Park shown on Robert Hoddle's plan of Liverpool.

Year	Development / Event
1828	Liverpool is one of the first country areas to open a Post Office, the first postmaster being Mr Meredith. The population of 'Liverpool town and district' is 949.
1830	Liverpool Hospital is completed.
1833	Aboriginal woman, Maria Lock obtains a 40-acre grant near Bigge Park in the name of her husband Robert Lock.
1836	Lansdowne Bridge, designed by David Lennox and built with convict labour, is opened by Governor Bourke. Liverpool Weir, also designed by David Lennox, may have been opened this year.
1840	Foundation stone laid for All Saints Catholic Church.
1841	Population of Liverpool district is now 2,008, with 690 of these living in the town.
1842	<i>New South Wales Constitution Act</i> passed.
1843	Bigge Park used as a site for convict punishment, stock, gallows, stockade. Area in south-east corner of park excised for uncertain purpose. Liverpool incorporated as a District, with Samuel Moore as Warden, and six councillors.
1846	Liverpool area suffers severe bush fires.
1848	District Council of Liverpool formed in January.
1853	Benevolent Society of New South Wales takes over Liverpool Hospital to be an 'Asylum for Destitute and Infirm Men.'
1855	Part of Bigge Park excised for railway line and station. J.H. Atkinson of Sophienberg turns the first sod for the Railway at Liverpool on 20 November.
1856	Sir William Denison declares open the line from Granville to Liverpool. Foundation stone laid for the Collingwood abattoirs. Moore Theological College founded near Bigge Park in Liverpool.
1868	Bigge Square dedicated for public recreation. The Paper Mill at Collingwood, possibly the first in Australia, is built. Henry Haigh's Wool Scour built.
1872	Liverpool proclaimed a municipality on 27 June 1872. 148 residents petition for this move, even though it means that in future they would have to pay rates on their properties. Richard Sadleir becomes the first Mayor of Liverpool.
1873	Newly incorporated Municipal Council of Liverpool becomes the trustee of the Square.
1883	Memorial obelisk dedicated to Captain Cook installed as a road marker from which distances from Liverpool were measured. Originally at corner of George and Moore Streets, then in Bigge Park and currently in Discovery Park.
1888	Bigge Park allegedly the focus for community celebrations to mark Queen Victoria's Golden Jubilee;
1890	Liverpool gas-works opens in July 1890 and the lighting of the first lamp is a cause of much celebration.

Year	Development / Event
1891	Further alienation of Bigge Park for railway purposes threatened but does not proceed.
1890s	Two storey pavilion erected in Bigge Park c 1880s-90s, demolished 1896. Cricket pavilion with 2 tier seating for spectators and dressing rooms at either end and cricket pitch.
1892	Cabramatta and Canley Vale separate from Liverpool and form their own local Council.
1893	Water laid on in Liverpool.
1901	Population of Liverpool district is 3,901.
1906	Liverpool's area increased by the addition of the Parish of Holsworthy. Council committees are recorded as being: finance, works, gas, town hall, health, by-laws, park, library and hackney carriage
1907	Liverpool Town Hall has a telephone connected. The Council had first proposed installing a telephone in 1899 but one alderman described it as a 'newfangled notion.'
1909	Lord Kitchener visits Holsworthy area to inspect Australian troops and their training – it is alleged that headquarters for his staff camped in Bigge Park; Open air pictures shown in Bigge Park on a screen fixed to the sports pavilion, with patrons sitting on the grass. ⁷⁶ Challenge Woollen Mill established.
1910	Senior staff at Liverpool Municipal Council are recorded as: town clerk, assistant clerk, sanitary inspector, overseer, gas manager, sanitary collector, valuer and auditor.
1912	883 acres acquired by the Commonwealth Government at Holsworthy for a Remount Depot and Veterinary Hospital.
1913	A further 16,868 acres acquired for the Army at Holsworthy. Liverpool Council meets on alternate Thursdays at the Town Hall in Moore Street. The Council's telephone number is '7 Liverpool' and the office is open for five hours on weekdays and two on Saturdays.
1914	With the outbreak of World War I an internment camp (the GCC or German Concentration Camp) is set up at Holsworthy for Prisoners of War. Later some POWs are also interned here. A training camp is set up at Holsworthy for soldiers preparing to go to the front. Initially this camp consists of tent accommodation. In September the 3rd Light Horse is transferred to "Holdsworthy" (as it was then called).
1916	In February an army riot begins at Casula Camp with the rioting soldiers later joined by those from Liverpool Camp. Troops break into hotels and later commandeer a train to the City where the riot continues. One man was shot dead and six injured. This event results in 'six-o'clock closing' being brought into New South Wales hotels. Publication of William Freame's <i>Early days of Liverpool</i> .
1917	Railway branch line from Liverpool through the Army Camp completed

⁷⁶ EDAW 1996, Appendix II

Year	Development / Event
1918	Liverpool Chamber of Commerce formed.
1919	Returned Soldier Settlement Scheme farms set up at Chipping Norton and Hillview. Influenza epidemic claims the lives of many internees at the German Concentration Camp.
1920	Liverpool Tennis Club reconstituted.
1921	Population of the Liverpool area is 6,302.
1922	Formation of the Southern Districts Tennis Association.
1920s	Tennis courts and pavilion built on Moore Street boundary; (verandah and toilets added 1995)
1925	Cooee Football Club given permission to use shed in Bigge Park for training two nights a week. Electricity switched on in Liverpool for the first time, with power purchased from the Department of Railways and the main substation at Warwick Farm. Australian Gas Light Company takes over the Liverpool gas works and soon after supplies all Liverpool's gas needs from the city mains.
1928	The first female staff member appointed at Liverpool Municipal Council.
1929	As part of the local unemployment relief scheme during the Great Depression, men are employed to demolish the old Moore College and Thomas Moore's House. The Colonial Hall is later built on the College site as part of the relief work.
1930s	Public toilets
1931	R A Lovejoy and F A Crowe start the Collingwood Golf Club, using Collingwood House as a club house.
1932	Archdeacon R.B.S. Hammond sets up Hammondville to provide housing for families whose breadwinner is out of work. Green Valley Progress Association formed in June.
1936	Bowling club built on Moore Street boundary near corner with College Street (licence revoked 1969)
1937	Celebration of the first hundred years of Catholic Education in Liverpool.
1938	With the build-up of the Citizen Military Forces a further 33,860 acres are obtained for the Army from the NSW Government on a permissive occupancy agreement. By this time the army area has extended to 54,000 acres.
1939	Publication of Ward and Olive Haard's local history, <i>Liverpool: the story of an historic town</i> .
1940	Toilets constructed by contractor H E Warne completed in March.
1941	Council resolves to build a children's playground in the park, install seats and erect dressing sheds with lavatory facilities. Local schoolchildren plant 36 ornamental trees around the area proposed for the playground to celebrate Arbor Day.
1942	American troops quartered on the Warwick Farm Race Course and at Hargrave Park.

Year	Development / Event
1944	Commencement of the building of HMS Golden Hind, a British Naval establishment at Hargrave Park. By this time at least 6,780 Australians, mostly of Italian origin are interned at a camp on the Anzac Rifle range - the previous internment camp earlier been taken over for other uses
1946	HMS Golden Hind taken over for temporary housing at what becomes the Hargrave Park housing settlement.
1947	Population of the Liverpool Municipality is now 12,692.
1948	Dr James Pirie Memorial Child Welfare Clinic (subsequently known as the Liverpool Baby Health Centre), associated with community health and welfare since then although no longer a baby health centre
1949	Nepean Shire Council ceases to exist and part of its area is transferred to Liverpool.
1951	Liverpool District War Memorial (erected to replace original memorial pillars erected by public subscription in Memorial Avenue near Macquarie Street, dedicated by Lieutenant General F H Berryman CB, CBE, DSO. New pillar erected by Liverpool Sub-Branch Australian Legion of Ex-Servicemen and women in Jubilee Year 1951
1955	Square columnar brick clock tower erected to commemorate Rotary's Golden (50 th) anniversary, designed by architect Colin Anslow
1956	Entrance gates erected as memorial to T G Scott councillor Nepean Shire Council 1906-1948, opened on 24 November 1956, commemorating the opening of park and work of Bigge Park Improvement Committee; Thomas Moore memorial drinking fountain dedicated by Sir John Northcott.
1958	The 'new' Liverpool Hospital opened. Formation of the Liverpool and District Historical Society.
1959	Freedom of Entry granted to the Corps of Royal Australian Engineers.
1960	Liverpool Township Monument (obelisk) installed on eastern side of park, marking the 150 th anniversary of the founding of the township of Liverpool on 7 Nov 1810. Liverpool's population has increased to 30,000. Distribution of electricity taken over by Prospect County Council. Liverpool declared a city on 9 November.
1961	Official opening of the Liverpool Technical College in the building originally built in the 1820s as a hospital. Building commences for Green Valley Housing estate.
1965	Liverpool District War Memorial with pond and fountain with memorial plaque to commemorate World War II unveiled by Sir William Yeo OBE
1968	Michael Wenden wins two Gold medals (100m and 200m freestyle) at the Mexico Olympics.
1970	First Liverpool Festival of Progress held.
1972	Dedication and opening of the new All Saints complex. Opening of the Liverpool Shoppingtown (Westfield). Fire at Woolworths and Big W Liverpool in October - Phoenix Plaza built in its place

Year	Development / Event
1973	Motor racing ceases at Warwick Farm after 12 years of competition.
1974	Music shell, a memorial to former mayor of Liverpool Alex Grimson and designed by J D Sim & Associates
1977	<i>Chipping Norton Lake Authority Act</i> , 1977 passed - work on the lakes takes some years.
1980	Plaque unveiled by Sir Roden Cutler VC on Liverpool Heritage Day 7 Nov 1980, marking 170 th anniversary of founding of town
1982	Fraxinus sp. planted by civilian widows in Bigge Park to mark the Year of the Tree. Conversion of Casula Powerhouse into an arts centre.
1983	Opening of the E.G. Whitlam Centre.
1985	Magnolia grandiflora planted in Bigge Park to mark 40 th anniversary Hiroshima Day, 6 August. Badgerys Creek chosen as site for Sydney's second International airport. Celebration of Liverpool's 175 th birthday with the dedication of the Liverpool Heritage wall, located adjacent to the Old Courthouse.
1987	In February the Library Plaza and Council Administration Centre are opened. Establishment of Liverpool District Family History Society.
1989	Opening of Liverpool Bicentennial Museum (now Liverpool Regional Museum).
1990s	Pressure to demolish Music Shell but community agitates for its retention.
1992	Renaming of Holsworthy Village to Wattle Grove.
1993	Magnolia planted in Bigge Park to commemorate victims and survivors of sexual abuse. Construction begins on a new four stage development of the Casula Powerhouse.
1994	Opening of Macquarie Mall and unveiling of Cenotaph in December.
1996	Publication in January of Christopher Keating's history of Liverpool, <i>On the Frontier</i> . Heritage and Landscape Management Plan for Bigge Park and Pioneers' Park prepared for Council by EDAW (Australia) Pty Ltd. Announcement in May by the Federal Airports Corporation of a new environmental impact study to be carried out for both Badgerys Creek and Holsworthy as sites for Sydney's second Airport. Opening of the new Liverpool Central Library in August. Publication in December of the <i>Oral History of Badgerys Creek: A Little Bit Country</i> .
1997	Official opening of Stage One of the new Liverpool Hospital
2006	Plaque against sexual violence unveiled in Bigge Park on Sexual Violence Day of Action 31 August 2006
2008	Council prepares Plan of Management for Bigge Park
2012	Archaeological report prepared by Casey & Lowe Archaeological and Heritage Consultants to advise Council on impacts of proposed upgrade works to Bigge Park; Mayne-Wilson & Associates prepare for IScape and Council an Assessment of the likely impacts and appropriateness of proposed planting schemes on the heritage values, elements and vistas of Bigge Park

Year	Development / Event
2013	Council engages urban designer Ed Blakely to advise on a City Centre Revitalisation Plan for Liverpool; Urbis with LAVA and WAX commissioned by Council to develop an urban design concept for the Bigge Park Precinct,
2014	Mayne-Wilson & Associates prepare heritage assessment of Bigge Park Music Shell; Expressions of interest called by Council for operation of a café in Bigge Park; Liverpool's population is 176,903 in October 2014; Council commissions MUSE cape to prepare a Conservation Management Plan for Bigge Park.
2015	Café opens in part of former dressing shed / pump house near northeast corner of Park. Urban design concept for Bigge Park precinct completed. Draft CMP submitted to Council in late January.
2021	Liverpool's population expected to be 228,770

2.6 Historical themes and how they are represented

2.6.1 Introduction

The Australian and NSW heritage systems identify national and state historical themes which signify historical processes, but do not describe physical evidence or items in a study area. These themes are very general and many heritage items will relate to more than one theme. The themes however, do aid in understanding the historical context of individual items and provide the context for assessment of heritage significance. Each local government area will also have local themes that relate to particular phases of development or industries within the area.

2.6.2 Historical themes

Set out below is a table of Australian and NSW themes, with the potential ability of Bigge Park to demonstrate these themes indicated.

Australian theme	NSW State theme	Ability to demonstrate
Peopling Australia	Aboriginal cultures and interactions with other cultures – activities associated with maintaining, developing, experiencing and remembering Aboriginal cultural identities and practices, past and present, with demonstrating distinctive ways of life, and with interactions demonstrating race relations.	Aboriginal people are known to have met in Bigge's Square in the 1840s and are likely to have used the area before European settlement. Bigge Park is subject to land claims by the Gandangara Local Aboriginal Land Council

Australian theme	NSW State theme	Ability to demonstrate
Peopling Australia	Convict – activities relating to incarceration, transport, reform, accommodation and working during the convict period in NSW (1788-1850)	Bigge’s Square was a place of punishment in the early days of Liverpool with floggings and possibly some executions
Developing local, regional and national economies	Environment – Cultural Landscape – activities associated with the interactions between humans, human societies and the shaping of their physical surroundings	As an historic town square, later developed as a designed urban landscape, Bigge Park demonstrates this theme, not only as a place of human interaction but also as an evolving cultural landscape.
Developing local, regional and national economies	Events – activities and processes that mark the consequences of natural and cultural occurrences	Bigge Park has been the location for significant events in Liverpool for most of its history since European settlement. These include important commemorations of the founding of Liverpool, plaque and monument unveilings, peace celebrations after World War I, Anzac Day services
Developing local, regional and national economies	Health – activities associated with preparing and providing medical assistance and/or promoting or maintaining the wellbeing of humans	The Pirie Centre represents the baby health centres that were a feature of many Australian towns and suburbs in the post-World War II baby boom. The ongoing use of the centre for the wellbeing of intellectually disabled persons continues to demonstrate the theme
Building settlements, towns and cities	Towns, suburbs and villages – activities associated with creating, planning and managing urban functions, landscapes and lifestyles in towns, suburbs and villages	Bigge Park is an important element in the design and development of Liverpool as the fourth oldest permanent European settlement in Australia. It continues to be a significant open space in the Liverpool LGA.

Australian theme	NSW State theme	Ability to demonstrate
Building settlements, towns and cities	Land Tenure – activities and processes for identifying forms of ownership and occupancy of land and water, both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal	Bigge Park demonstrates the early creation of town squares in the colony of NSW. The park's present boundaries and uses reflect the series of excisions of land for infrastructure and sectional sporting interests over the years. Aboriginal land claims over parts of the park demonstrate ongoing conflicts over ownership of land.
Educating	Education – activities associated with teaching and learning by children and adults, formally and informally	Although a relatively recent, the use of the Pirie Centre for the University of the Third Age demonstrates this theme.
Governing	Defence – activities associated with defending places from hostile takeover and occupation	Bigge Park demonstrates this theme as the location of two successive war memorials for Liverpool, the present memorial being Liverpool's main war memorial to those from the City who have served and died in Australia's conflicts since World War I. The park is also the site for Anzac Day commemorations.
Governing	Welfare – activities and processes associated with the provision of social services by the state or philanthropic organisations	The Pirie Centre has demonstrated several aspects of welfare over a period of more than 60 years
Developing Australia's cultural life	Creative Endeavour – activities associated with the production and performance of literary, artistic, architectural and other imaginative, interpretive or inventive works and/or associated with the production	The setting aside of Bigge's Square by Governor Macquarie was an imaginative example of early colonial town planning. The Pirie Centre is a fine example of its architectural style and period; the T G Scott Memorial gateway and Rotary clock tower are good examples of 1950s municipal architecture.

	and expression of cultural phenomena and/or environments that have inspired such creative activities	
Australian theme	NSW State theme	Ability to demonstrate
Developing Australia's cultural life	Leisure – activities associated with recreation and relaxation	Bigge Park has been the focus for numerous leisure activities in Liverpool since it was established in 1810.
Developing Australia's cultural life	Social Institutions – activities and organisational arrangements for the provision of social activities	The Pirie Centre has demonstrated a number of social uses, from baby health to its present community centre uses for senior education and care for persons with intellectual disabilities.
Developing Australia's cultural life	Sport – activities associated with organised recreational and health promotional activities	Bigge Park has had a long association with cricket and football from the mid-19 th century and from the 1920s with tennis, bowls, table tennis and hockey.
Marking the phases of life	Birth and Death – activities associated with the initial stages of human life and the bearing of children and with the final stages of human life and disposal of the dead	The Dr Pirie Centre's original use as a baby health clinic demonstrates this theme. The park is also the site for memorial plantings to those affected by sexual violence.
Marking the phases of life	Persons – activities of and association with identifiable individuals, families and communal groups	Bigge Park has strong associations with significant figures in NSW history including Governor Macquarie, Surveyor Meehan, Commissioner Bigge, several Liverpool councillors and dignitaries who unveiled memorials.

3.0 Analysis of physical evidence

This section provides a description and analysis of Bigge Park as it is today, including the environmental context, the built and landscape elements.

3.1 Bigge Park & its setting

Bigge Park, Liverpool is located at the eastern end of the Liverpool CBD, just west of the Georges River and the main Southern Railway Line. The park is bounded by Bigge, Moore, College and Elizabeth Streets, Liverpool.

3.1.1 Topography

Bigge Park is an essentially flat area with little variation in levels across the park – only about 3 metres level change from the southwest corner (RL 15.03) to the southeast corner (RL 12.05) and about 2 metres from the southwest corner to the northwest corner (RL 17.07). There is little information available about the site in the early days of European settlement in Liverpool but the park's relationship to nearby historic buildings such as the former hospital and court house suggests that the topography of the park has changed little since Bigge's Square was established.

3.1.2 Geology & soils

Bigge Park has been mapped in the Blacktown Major Soil Landscape Group.⁷⁷ These residual landscapes developed on Wianamatta Group shales are characterised by gently undulating rises almost entirely cleared of the originally open forest and woodland vegetation. Dominant soil materials are loams, clay loams and light clays, usually of low fertility and with low to moderate water-holding capacity. Described as being moderately reactive with seasonal waterlogging, these soils have high capability for urban development with appropriate foundation design.

3.1.3 Views, vistas & visual absorption capacity

There are various views from the public domain into Bigge Park, obscured to varying degree by vegetation (e.g. trees along the Bigge Street and Elizabeth Street boundaries or by buildings on the park boundary (e.g. Dr Pirie Centre, Tennis Club, Bowling Club).

Similarly, there are views out of the park to the Liverpool CBD, the most significant being the visual relationship between the park and the former Liverpool Hospital (now Liverpool TAFE). The significant historic visual connection between the former Liverpool Court House and Bigge Park was lost when the Pirie Centre was constructed.

Within the park there are wide local views across the sparsely treed central area and several vistas along paths to built elements, particularly the Rotary clocktower.

⁷⁷ Hazelton & Tille 1990, p70 et seq.



Figure 48 Typical view through double row of boundary plantings into Bigge Park from Bigge Street near the corner with Elizabeth Street. (Photo: Chris Betteridge, 9 October 2014)



Figure 49 View across College Street from Bigge Park to Liverpool TAFE (former Liverpool Hospital). (Photo: Chris Betteridge, 12 December 2014)

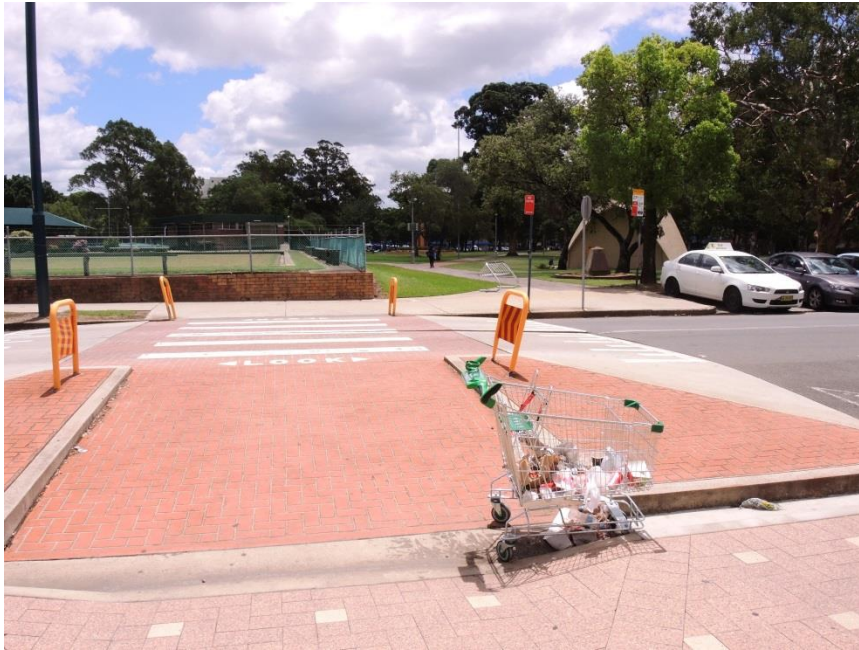


Figure 50 View west from College Street in front of Liverpool TAFE to Bigge Park. The east-west path in the park is off-axis with the historic former Liverpool Hospital due to the construction of the bowling greens. (Photo: Chris Betteridge, 12 December 2014)

Visual absorption capacity is an estimation of the ability of a particular area of landscape to absorb development without creating a significant change in visual character or a reduction in scenic quality of the area. The capacity of an area to absorb development visually is primarily dependent on landform, vegetation and the location and nature of existing development. Generally, flat or gently undulating open forest or woodland has a higher capacity to visually absorb development than open heathland or swamp or heavily undulating topography with cleared ridges and slopes.

A major factor influencing visual absorption capacity is the level of visual contrast between the proposed development and the existing elements of the landscape in which it is to be located. If, for example, a visually prominent development already exists, then the capacity of that area to visually absorb an additional development of similar scale and form is higher than a similar section of land that has no similar development but has a natural undeveloped visual character.

The site is considered to have a visual absorption capacity to absorb new development in already built-on areas of comparable scale, bulk and height to the existing without major changes to the way it is perceived from public viewing points. However, to do so would result in a lost opportunity to reclaim parts of the park as open space. A good example is the former Bowling Club building, a visually intrusive element, the removal of which would open up the southeast corner of the park, with opportunities for improved visual connection between the park and the railway station. Any new structures in parts of the park not currently built on would need to be limited to small, carefully sited and designed elements that do not impact on significant views and vistas or significant plantings.

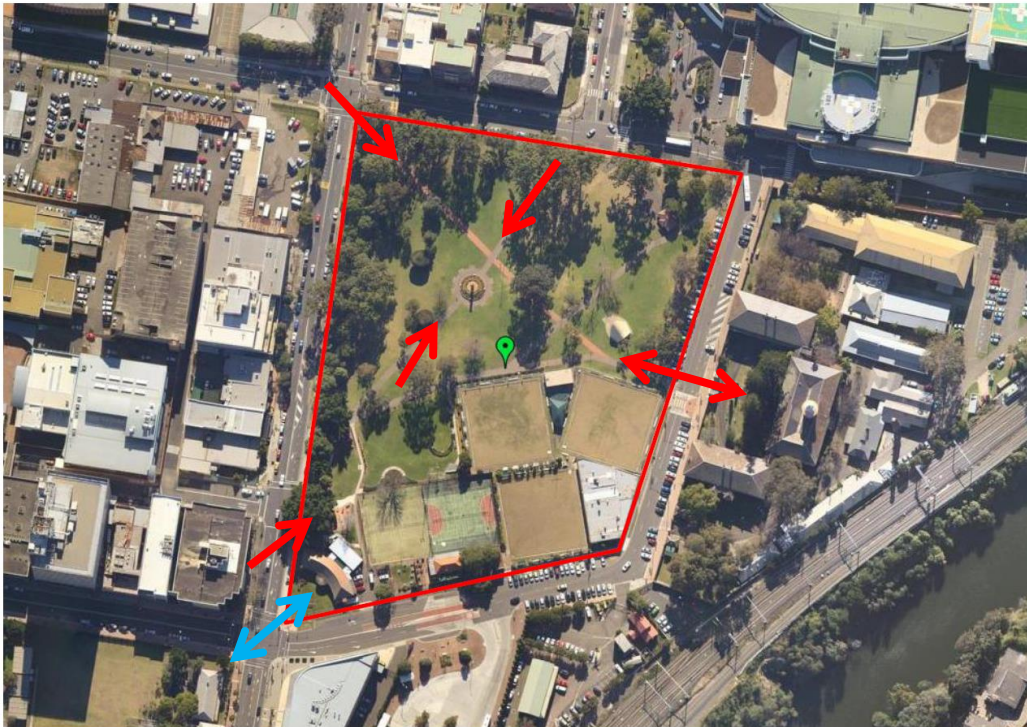


Figure 51: Aerial photograph of Bigge Park showing major views (red arrows). The historic visual connection between the former Liverpool Court House and the park is indicated in blue. (Source: Liverpool City Council / **MUSE**cape)

3.1.4 The park boundaries

Bigge Park is bounded by Elizabeth, College, Moore and Bigge Street in Liverpool. Commercial premises, home units and the South Western Sydney Institute of TAFE take up the area surrounding the park. The present boundaries have remained essentially unchanged since the excision of land for the railway station complex in the 1850s and should be retained as an appropriate curtilage for the park.

3.1.5 Access & circulation

Pedestrian access into Bigge Park from Moore Street is available between the rear of the Dr Pirie Centre and the western boundary of the tennis courts. There are three pedestrian entries along the Bigge Street boundary including that through the T G Scott Memorial gateway. There is a single entry from Elizabeth Drive, approximately mid-way along that boundary, which is bounded by a low retaining wall. Entries from College Street are near the corner with Elizabeth drive and opposite the Liverpool TAFE.

3.1.6 Natural elements

Early descriptions of the park and archival photographs dating from as early as the 1880s reveal that Bigge Park had been completely cleared of its original vegetation in the early days of European settlement.

3.1.7 Plantings

The Park features border plantings of trees including *Eucalyptus microcorys* (Tallow wood), *Lophostemon confertus* (Brush Box), *Ficus macrocarpa var. hillii* (Hill's Fig)

and *Alphitonia excelsa* (Red Ash). The plantings along Bigge and Elizabeth Streets are particularly impressive. A variety of trees have been planted through the park in an informal layout. Included amongst these are trees planted to commemorate special events such as the *Magnolia grandiflora* (Bull Bay) planted in 1982, the Year of the Tree. The Park also contains a variety of garden beds planted with shrubs and annuals. A number of these are associated with memorials and contribute to the significance of these items. A plan of the vegetation in Bigge Park in 1996 is shown in the figure below.

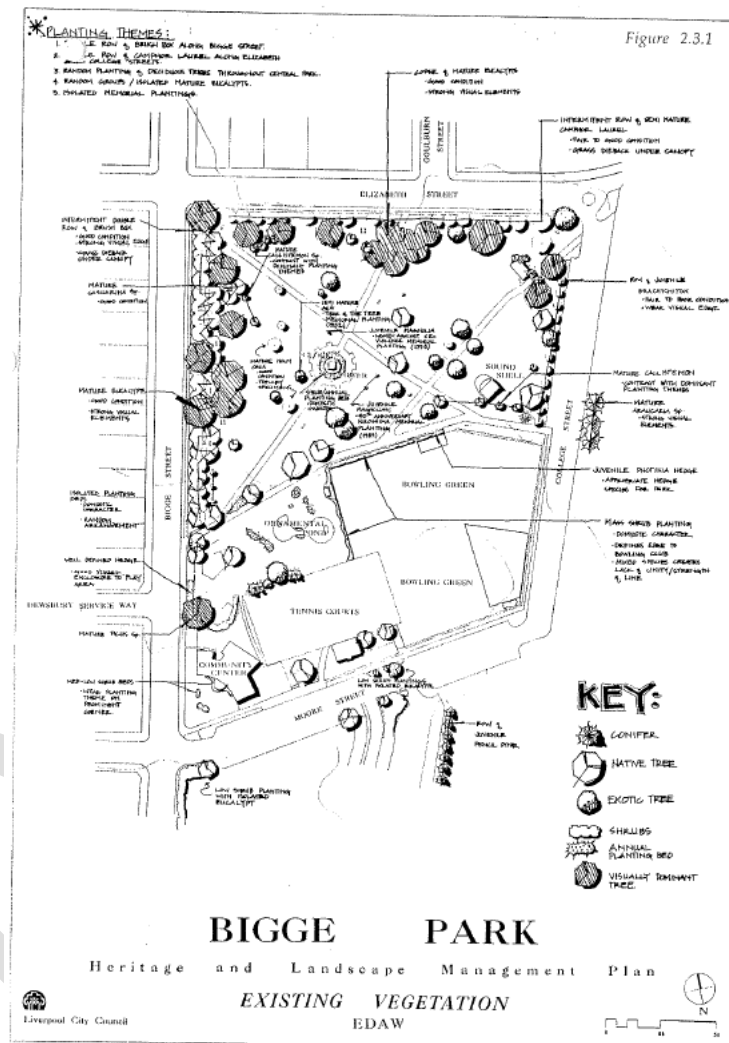


Figure 52: Plan showing planting themes and existing vegetation in Bigge Park at the time of the 1996 Heritage and Landscape Management Plan. (Source: EDAW)

Reports relating to vegetation management and suitable species for planting in Bigge Park are included in the Appendices to this CMP.

3.2 Park elements and condition

Element
Dr Pirie Centre

Condition
Good

Image



Element
Tennis courts & Courtside
Café

Condition
Good to Fair

Image



Element
Bowling club & greens

Condition
Fair

Image



Element
Children's playground

Condition
Equipment generally good
but ground surfaces worn

Image



Element
T G Scott Memorial
Gateway

Condition
Good although some
graffiti and wear to
surface finish

Image



Element
Liverpool Regional War
Memorial

Condition
Good although some
dieback in low hedges

Image



Element
Rotary clock tower

Condition
Generally good but
finishes to circular garden
beds and the plantings
require upgrade

Image



Element
Music shell

Condition
Fair

Image



Element

Former dressing shed /
pump house

Condition

Fair
Note: Since this photo
was taken the southern
half of the building
has been converted as a
café.

Image**Element**

Liverpool Foundation
commemorative obelisk

Condition

Fair

Image**Element**

Memorial drinking
fountain

Condition

Poor

Image**Element**

Foundation Day memorial

Condition

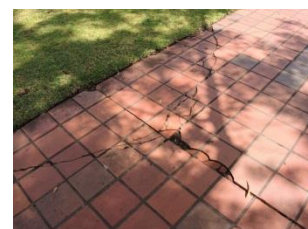
Good

Image**Element**

Pathways

Condition

Variable, with some
cracking, trip hazards

Image

Element
Retaining walls

Condition
Generally Good

Image



Element
Signs

Condition
Generally good

Image



Element
Seating

Condition
Variable

Image



Element
Lighting

Condition
Variable

Image



Element
Bike racks

Condition
Good

Image



Element
Tree plantings

Condition
Generally good

Image



Element
Other plantings

Condition
Generally good



Image



4.0 Comparative Analysis

Comparison of a place with other places of similar age, use and form can assist in establishing relative heritage significance. This analysis has been limited to other comparable places or items listed on LEP schedules in NSW or otherwise known to the authors.

4.1 Introduction

Land designated as town squares or market squares and intended as open space for community gatherings is a traditional feature of towns across the world. It was a device that visionary town planner Governor Macquarie considered important in the creation of the colonial townships he established. These spaces also operated as town commons where livestock could graze. Macquarie's proclamation for Liverpool included mention of a market square and was similar to those he decreed for other towns around the same time. Town squares were central to each of them.

4.2 Richmond Park, Richmond

At Richmond, founded 1811, The Great Square (now Richmond Park) was imagined as a town market square. Its original size of 10 acres was reduced during the 19th century with the annexation of land for the construction of public buildings and

utilities. The Square provided grazing land for unofficial agistment and open space for community activities, sporting events and celebrations. The remaining land evolved as a public park with a central sports oval, pavilion, rotunda, CWA kiosk, children's playground, picnic tables and seats, two 1885 cannons and a war memorial. As 'Richmond Park', the land was vested in Richmond Council in 1872 and is now managed by Hawkesbury Shire Council.



Figure 53 View across the playing field, Richmond Park, Richmond, NSW, to the grandstand, children's playground and bandstand. (Photo: Chris Betteridge, 12 January 2015)

4.3 Town Square, Wilberforce, NSW

The original town square in Wilberforce proclaimed by Macquarie in 1810 still retains its original relationship with the schoolhouse, cemetery, church and town centre. Unlike Bigge Park, the town square was not identified to be a market square and much of its use has been passive recreation since its gazettal for that purpose in 1895. Like Bigge Park and Richmond Park, it has a relocated war memorial (World War I) and commemorative plaques and plantings and has long been the focus for community and commemorative events. A cricket pitch and children's playground, added in the 1940s have been removed.



Figure 54 The Town Square, Wilberforce, NSW. Photo: accessed at <http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/heritageapp/HeritageItemImage.aspx?ID=5053905#ad-image-0>

4.4 McQuade Park, Windsor

Also known as The Great Square, Church Green and Windsor Park, McQuade Park, Windsor, NSW is of State heritage significance because it is an outstanding and rare feature of Governor Macquarie's concept of a planned country town in 1810. A central square played a pivotal role in a Macquarie town and McQuade Park retains this role in relation to public activities and open space, as well as its relationship to one of the great early churches and cemeteries of New South Wales (St Matthews). The intimate association with Macquarie himself and with his chief surveyor, James Meehan, is of state significance.

The early adjustment in the shape and dimensions of the park is significant because it offers uncommonly legible evidence of the accommodations which colonial governments made with landowners to respect existing rights. The later extensions of functions within the park, including sporting, recreational and commemorative, have not obscured the original purpose of Macquarie's Great Square, though many of these additional functions have local rather than state significance. The Boer War Memorial is, however, an exception because of its rarity and because of the aesthetic merit of O'Kelly's carvings of mounted troopers from the South African engagement.



Figure 55 Panorama across McQuade Park, Windsor, NSW from the grandstand. (Photo: Chris Betteridge, 12 January 2015)



Figure 56 Ornamental lake, McQuade Park, Windsor looking towards George Street. (Photo: Ian Jack accessed at <http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/heritageapp/HeritageItemImage.aspx?ID=5053906#ad-image-1>)

4.5 Thompson Square, Windsor, NSW

Thompson Square is one of the oldest public squares in Australia and notable for the large number of Colonial Georgian buildings which surround it. It is the only public space remaining from the original town and has played an important part in the history of the town. It is the only remaining civic space as laid out by Governor Macquarie and is a vital precinct in the preservation of the early Colonial character of Windsor. The Square reflects Macquarie's visionary schemes for town planning excellence in the infant colony.⁷⁸

Since the above statement of significance was prepared in 1975, a proposal to upgrade the road bridge across the Hawkesbury River has posed a threat to

⁷⁸ Statement of significance by David Sheedy, 1975 from National Trust listing card, reproduced on SHI database form.

Thompson Square, prompting considerable community protest and further research into the history and significance of the square, including a nomination for listing on the National Heritage List⁷⁹. The statement of significance from that nomination refers to Bigge Park, Liverpool and is reproduced below.

Thompson Square is the only generic eighteenth-century urban civic square in Australia to survive. It is the only one of its informal sort incorporated into the first wave of Australia's planned town creations, established in 1810 by Governor Lachlan Macquarie. It crystallises and is able to present visually to today's national community, in a way that no other heritage place can, the first time the convict focus and its need-based, haphazard development intertwined with and grew into the more gentrified, aesthetically aware, planned environments characteristic of Australia's mid-colonial period. That it preserves within it pure extant elements from many periods and is the result of complex layering from 1795 and then over 218 years, demonstrates a multilayered record of occupation found in so very few other places in Australia, that no civic space provides absolute comparison. Thompson Square is not only rare: it is unique. There is no other eighteenth-century civic square remaining in Australia. Today it retains the shape and general form it had assumed by 1800 under Governor Hunter, with archaeological deposits from that same period, as well as having intact remnants of open space extant from the civic precinct that was its original centre in 1795. The hallmark of Macquarie's town planning was a civic square, a commonplace of Georgian town planning in eighteenth-century Britain and elsewhere. Sydney and Parramatta had not initially developed around such a defined focal space, and any of their earliest informal spaces which may have been used in this way no longer survive. Thompson Square set Windsor further apart as the primary new town creation, because in combination with it developing first and largest, the town's new square, together with the old continuing one (from then known as Thompson Square), made it the only new Macquarie town to contain two formal squares. Alongside Richmond Park, Wilberforce Park and Bigge Park in Liverpool, Thompson Square became one of the handful of Macquarie's town squares to survive for two centuries. It is a rare example of the foundation group of planned civic squares which inaugurated a universal trend in town creation throughout Australia which was adopted by Governor Darling and his successors, including Colonel Light in South Australia. Thompson Square reflects the needs and aspirations of those ex-convict farmers who had created the colonial society which made Adelaide possible forty years later. The rarity of Thompson Square's prior existence continuously from 1795 enhances this value and sets it apart as unique amongst Australia's civic squares. Thompson Square is distinguished from other comparable squares by its river frontage and the continuing use of its shipping facilities. No other Hawkesbury town, nor the later urban centres along the Murray-Darling, such as Bourke or Wilcannia, had a town square physically linked to river activity. Its convict roots are also important. By its morphing seamlessly from a generic, mostly convict-orientated civic space into special pride of place

⁷⁹ National Trust of Australia (NSW), accessed at <http://www.heritagespace.com.au/images/4%20what%20is%20thompson%20squares%20significance.pdf>

within the new Macquarie era's planning it demonstrates the fluidity and change that the penal society itself was undergoing, and the successful emergence of an interweaving of penal and free society. Thompson Square is also unusual in the way the early Hawkesbury farmers, mainly ex-convicts, formed a unique 'inferior settlement' isolated by distance from the rest of the colonists, yet they and the communal square that became central to their lives for their food supplies, safety and muster access, simultaneously became central to the whole colony's survival. Thompson Square was the conduit whereby the grain supplies bought by Governors from Hunter to Macquarie from farmers on the Hawkesbury (known then as the 'foodbowl of the colony') to feed Sydney and Parramatta were directed to the metropolitan stores. Thompson Square was the pivot on which this success rested. Its very name is important, for the square is the only Australian place to be officially given the name of an ex-convict by an early governor. Andrew Thompson as the first of any ex-convict to be elevated to the rank of magistrate is the supreme illustration of Macquarie's emancipist policy in action. Macquarie himself named the existing Square soon after Andrew Thompson's premature death, voicing his personal honour and esteem. This makes it the unique extant physical example of society's transition into a more gentrified, aesthetically orientated whole representing Thompson as the quintessential convict redeemed, the first square ever to be used to recognise social worthiness and demonstrate Macquarie's controversial emancipist policy in action. Thompson Square is also pivotal to the first stirrings in Australia by former convicts of the meanings and ramifications of freedom in a penal colony, for it was former transportee John Harris's imprisonment in the watch-house in Thompson Square in 1798 that led directly to his being the first ex-convict in Australia to test his human and political rights in an Australian Court and to win, thus changing the course of Australian democratic history. The archaeological potential for unique evidence of the pre-Macquarie farming phase of Australian settlement found in test excavations and in random excavations in Thompson Square to date is rare. There is only a small number of sites likely to evidence this phase, and none with such long or intact continuity as Thompson Square. When considered together with the extant 1811-1816 fabric above ground connected to Governor Macquarie by the strongest documentary and pictorial evidence of artists Evans and Slaeger, the site can be seen to be extremely rare. Archaeological excavation within the curtilage of the square has revealed the extent of an ancient Aeolian sand-dune which is of archaeological interest because it is a rare potential source of artefact deposits in chronologically layered sequences, a resource not usually able to be found in the Sydney Basin. The aesthetic of Thompson Square is firmly grounded in Australian history at all four compass points, with a layering of values embellishing the sensual gratification given by the great river, the three suites of vernacular buildings, largely colonial, and the glimpse of the distant mountains which in Macquarie's time could at last be crossed and the vast interior of Australia finally occupied by Europeans. This river-side scene is still evocative of the landscape Governors Hunter, King, Bligh and Macquarie saw as they arrived in or departed the square by boat. The vistas and sight-lines of the entire Square in 2013 are still demonstrably those known in all phases of its history, both to and from north and south, but also across the square east to west. Because of long continuity of Hawkesbury pioneer family residence in the district, descendants of its early ex-

convict settlers remain highly conscious of their Australian origins despite being scattered the length and breadth of Australia and also overseas. At regular functions celebrating family and district beginnings, families are well-represented by the interstate and overseas members, because, to an Australia-wide constituency which has bonds of blood with the early European settlers on the Upper Hawkesbury, Thompson Square retains special values. The spirited dissent to the proposal to construct a wider new bridge and approach road of inappropriate bulk across the square, seriously endangering its integrity as Australia's oldest extant civic space, has received Australia-wide condemnation. As the only square of its type extant and still readable in its 1790s landscape, such a plan has roused 12,000 petitioners to object, their signatures presented to the New South Wales Parliament. Many public figures, some with family links to the early Hawkesbury, are also publically protesting in many forums. The number of objectors, putting pen to paper and contributing to a variety of well-considered protest meetings in the past year, has been striking testimony, demonstrating the informed community recognition of the power of Thompson Square's unique heritage values today.



Figure 57 Thompson Square, Windsor. (Photo: Chris Betteridge, 21 July 2014)

4.6 Regent Square, George Town, Tasmania

Regent Square is probably the oldest public park in Tasmania. It predates Launceston's Prince's Square by at least 13 years and City Park by 30 years. Hobart's Franklin Square did not become a public park until 1862 and St David's Park was a cemetery until 1926. The only park that can compete with Regent Square's claim is Arthur Park in New Norfolk.

Regent Square is a rare surviving Australian example of the town planning of Lachlan Macquarie and James Meehan. Together between 1810 and 1812 they drew the plans for Liverpool, south west of Sydney, the five "Macquarie Towns" in the Hawkesbury Valley, and the two Tasmanian towns of George Town and New Norfolk. George Town is one of only two of these towns to survive with its original street plan and central park intact. George Town still has the same street plan as that drawn up by Meehan, the same street names as allocated by Macquarie and Regent Square still has its original boundaries. The only other Meehan and Macquarie designed town to have these features is Wilberforce, in New South Wales.

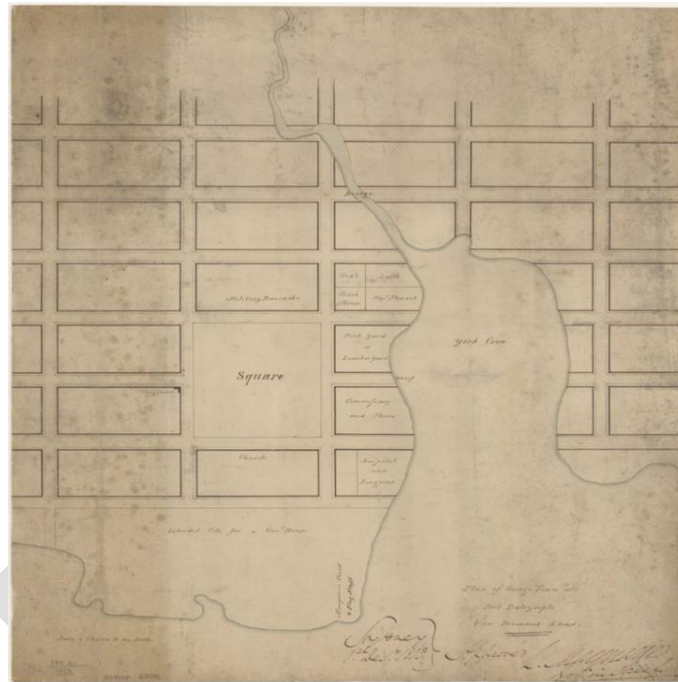


Figure 58 The original plan for George Town, as approved by Governor Macquarie in 1813. In June 1812 James Meehan was sent down from Sydney to complete the survey of George Town and Elizabeth Town. Macquarie advised Meehan that he had decided to form the town "according to a well digested regular Plan". It would be a grid pattern of streets on each side of York Cove. The key feature was a large central square, around which the principal buildings of the town should be placed. (Source: NSW Archives Office)

Regent Square has always been the focus for celebrations and important civic occasions in the town including Empire Day celebrations, the Anzac day sports, the military parades, the Batman Festival, George Town on Show, Christmas Carols, Australia Day Awards and Targa Tasmania. For more than 160 years George Town has celebrated important occasions on Regent Square, and they may have been celebrated even earlier.

Regent Square is in danger of losing its special heritage appeal. New additions to the Memorial Hall have formed a barrier between Macquarie Street and the parkland area of Regent Square. Any further building to the east or west of the Memorial Hall will extend that barrier so that George Town's main street will be blocked off from its central square. Often the car parks along Macquarie Street reach capacity. Further

building on the Square will increase demand for parking and the temptation will be to park these cars further on the Square, thus threatening the existing open parklands. If Regent Square becomes a park behind buildings, hidden from view from Macquarie Street, then George Town will no longer be the town Macquarie had in mind some 200 years ago, and the community will lose an important reason for George Town having its status as an historic town.

4.7 Conclusion

Comparison with other town squares listed above demonstrates that Bigge Park is of historical and associational significance at a State level as a very rare surviving example of the early 19th century town planning brought to the colonies of New South Wales and Van Diemens Land (Tasmania) by the far-sighted Governor Lachlan Macquarie and implemented by Surveyor James Meehan. Retaining much of its original area and defined by its late 1850s boundaries, Bigge Park is an important public park with a long history of passive and active recreation for Liverpool and the setting for a number of locally significant memorials.

5.0 Assessment of heritage values

This section describes the principles and criteria for the assessment of cultural significance and applies them to Bigge Park and its setting.

5.1 Principles and Basis for Assessment

The concept of 'cultural significance' or 'heritage value' embraces the value of a place or item which cannot be expressed solely in financial terms. Assessment of cultural significance endeavours to establish why a place or item is considered important and is valued by the community. Cultural significance is embodied in the fabric of the place (including its setting and relationship to other items), the records associated with the place and the response that the place evokes in the contemporary community.

Cultural landscapes by their name imply human intervention but they may also include substantial natural elements. "They can present a cumulative record of human activity and land use in the landscape, and as such can offer insights into the values, ideals and philosophies of the communities forming them, and of their relationship to the place. Cultural landscapes have a strong role in providing the distinguishing character of a locale, a character that might have varying degrees of aesthetic quality, but, regardless, is considered important in establishing the communities' sense of place."⁸⁰

5.2 Assessment Methodology

The *Australia ICOMOS charter for the conservation of places of cultural significance* (the Burra Charter) was formulated in 1979, with a major revision in 1999, and formal adoption of the revised edition, with new practice notes, in 2013. The Burra Charter is the standard adopted by most heritage practitioners in Australia. The Burra

⁸⁰ Pearson, Michael and Sullivan, Sharon (1995), *Looking After Heritage Places*, Melbourne University Press.

Charter and its Guidelines for Assessment of Cultural Significance recommend that significance be assessed in categories such as aesthetic, historic, scientific, social and other. The 1999 amendments to the Burra Charter emphasise the importance of setting in the conservation of heritage items.

The *NSW Heritage Manual* outlines the same broad criteria for assessing the nature of significance. These criteria are considered in addition to an item's rarity and / or representativeness, criteria that relate to comparative significance. The seven criteria adopted by the Heritage Council of New South Wales for the assessment of items for potential listing on the State Heritage Register apply equally well for items of local significance. Inclusion and exclusion guidelines are provided to clarify how well a place meets the significance criteria.

The review of significance in Section 5.3 below has been undertaken in accordance with the Australia ICOMOS criteria, those in the *NSW Heritage Manual* and those established for listing on the State Heritage Register as established under Part 3A of the *Heritage Act* (as amended, 1998).

5.3 Review of Heritage Significance

5.3.1 Historical Significance (Criterion A)

An item is important in the course, or pattern, of NSW's or an area's cultural or natural history.

Bigge Park has historical significance at a State level as an example of the town squares included by Governor Lachlan Macquarie in his plans for the towns he established in the colony of New South Wales and Van Diemen's Land between 1810 and 1822. As an area of public open space in continuous use since it was created, Bigge Park has been a key part of Liverpool for more than 200 years. The park is one of the few colonial places (along with the former Court House, former Hospital, St Luke's Church and the street grid plan) remaining which demonstrate the history of the town. The park also has a long history as a place for memorials to important events and persons associated with Liverpool.

5.3.2 Historical Associational Significance (Criterion B)

An item has strong or special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in NSW's or an area's cultural or natural history.

Bigge Park (formerly Bigge's Square, then Bigge-square Oark) named after Commissioner John Thomas Bigge has strong associations with important figures in the early colonial planning and development of the colonies of New South Wales and Van Diemen's Land, including Governor Lachlan Macquarie and Surveyor James Meehan as well as Bigge. The park contains memorials to several figures important in the development of Liverpool including Thomas Moore (drinking fountain), T G Scott (gateway), Alex Grimson (music shell) and Dr James Pirie (former baby health clinic, later community centre). The park has contained two war memorials including the current Liverpool Regional War Memorial and is the focus of annual Anzac Day

and Armistice Day commemorations. There are strong associations at a local level with local sports including football, cricket, tennis and bowls, the park being the former headquarters of the Liverpool City Bowling Club and the Southern Districts Tennis Association. There are more minor associations with dignitaries who unveiled memorials including former NSW governors Sir Eric Woodward and Sir Roden Cutler VC.

5.3.3 Aesthetic Significance (Criterion C)

An item is important in demonstrating aesthetic characteristics and / or a high degree of creative or technical achievement in NSW or an area.

Bigge Park has aesthetic significance at a local level as a designed cultural landscape with several prominent buildings and structures and mature tree plantings. Significant built elements include the Dr Pirie Centre, the T G Scott Memorial Gateway and the Rotary clock tower. The aesthetic values of the park derived from its open spaces and ornamental plantings are compromised to some extent by relatively recent buildings including the bowling club house and tennis club house and the additions and disabled access ramps to the Dr Pirie Centre.

5.3.4 Social Significance (Criterion D)

An item has strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group in NSW or an area's for social, cultural or spiritual reasons.

Social value is hard to quantify without detailed surveys of those who have been associated with a place but it is likely that Bigge Park has high social significance for particular groups within the contemporary Liverpool community, particularly local sporting groups and those who use the park for passive recreation or attendance at ceremonies such as Anzac Day commemorations. Aboriginal land claims over the park by the Gandangara Local Aboriginal Land Council indicate the park has special significance to a group representing local Aboriginal people. It is also likely that the homeless people who use the music shell for overnight shelter value the place as their 'home'.

5.3.5 Technical Significance and Research Potential (Criterion E)

An item has potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of NSW's or an area's cultural or natural history.

Bigge Park has some technical significance as an example of Macquarie's town planning for the colony of New South Wales and there is potential for further information about the history of the place through ongoing research of archival sources.

5.3.6 Rarity (Criterion F)

An item possesses uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of NSW's or an area's cultural or natural history.

Bigge Park has rarity value at a State level as a relatively intact example of one of the few town squares ordered by Governor Lachlan Macquarie and surveyed by James Meehan in the second decade of the 19th century.

5.3.7 Representativeness (Criterion G)

An item is important in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of NSW's or an area's cultural or natural places or environments.

Bigge Park is representative of early town squares later dedicated as municipal parks.

5.3.8 Integrity / intactness

Some of the original Bigge's Square was appropriated for railway use in the 1850s but the present boundaries are largely unchanged since that time although some sections have been alienated for sectional sporting interests. The current draft Landscape Masterplan provides for return of significant areas for general community use.

5.4 Curtilage Considerations

5.4.1 Some Definitions

In the past, the term curtilage has been interpreted in various ways by landscape professionals and the courts, often as the minimal area defined by a building and its outbuildings. The current NSW Heritage System interpretation, embodied in the 1996 Heritage Office publication *Historic Curtilages*, may be summarised as the area around a heritage item that must be conserved to retain the significance of the item. The curtilages for many properties now listed on the State Heritage Register or on Local Environmental Plan schedules were defined at a time when more emphasis was placed on the architectural qualities of buildings than on their landscape contexts. Since the early 1980s there has been an increase in community awareness of the need to protect adequate settings for buildings, including views and vistas. This enhanced appreciation of landscape is highlighted in the 1999 revision of the Burra Charter of Australia ICOMOS, placing greater emphasis on 'setting'. Article 8 of the Burra Charter now reads:

"Conservation requires the retention of an appropriate visual setting and other relationships that contribute to the cultural significance of the place. New construction, demolition, intrusions or other changes which would adversely affect the setting or relationships are not appropriate".

The Explanatory Notes to Article 8 are as follows:

"Aspects of the visual setting may include use, siting, bulk, form, scale, character, colour, texture and materials.

Other relationships, such as historical connections, may contribute to interpretation, appreciation, enjoyment or experience of the place."

5.4.2 Recommended Curtilage

The original area for the Liverpool town square was reduced in the mid-19th century for railway purposes and it is important that there are no further reductions to Bigge Park. Consequently, the recommended curtilage for the park is the entire existing area comprising the following parcels:

Lot 701 DP 1056246;
 Lot 702 DP 1056246; and,
 Lot 394 DP752060.

5.5 State Heritage Inventory statement of significance

The following statement of significance is that in the current State Heritage Inventory (SHI) database maintained by the Heritage Division, Office of Environment and Heritage. It has been derived from information in the following documents:

FORM Architects Australia Pty Ltd 2004, *Liverpool Heritage Study Review*;
 JRC Planning 1986, *Macarthur Heritage Study*;
 National Trust of Australia (NSW) 1986, Register listing for Bigge Park;
 Neustein & Associates 1992, *Liverpool Heritage Study*;

Only the first mentioned study was prepared using the current heritage assessment guidelines.

Bigge Park, as part of the original early 19th century commons for the Town of Liverpool, demonstrates the history of early urban planning and land use in the Colony. The establishment of a Town Common is particularly representative of Governor Macquarie's early urban plans in the Colony. As part of the original survey of Liverpool it demonstrates the history of the early settlement of the city and is a physical link to the character of the early township, enhanced by its location near a number of other historic sites in the city centre. It indicates a level of technical achievement in its original design by key Colonial figures Gr Macquarie and Surveyor Meehan. The Park is now a public, open, green space with attractive tree planting located in close proximity to a number of historic sites, it is aesthetically pleasing within the modern city centre. Its continuity of use as a green open space is rare within Liverpool. There is the potential to gain more information on the group from further architectural, archaeological and documentary research.

5.6 New statement of significance

This new statement of significance reflects the additional information about Bigge Park gathered for preparation of the CMP.

Bigge Park has historical significance at a State level as an example of the town squares included by Governor Lachlan Macquarie in his plans for the towns he established in the colonies of New South Wales and Van Diemen's land between 1810 and 1822. As an area of public open space in continuous use since it was created, Bigge Park has been a key part of Liverpool for more than 200 years. The park is one of the few colonial places (along with the former Court House, former

Hospital, St Luke's Church and the street grid plan) remaining which demonstrate the history of the town. The park also has a long history as a place for memorials to important events and persons associated with Liverpool.

The park (formerly Bigge's Square, then Bigge-square Park) named after Commissioner John Thomas Bigge has strong associations with important figures in the early colonial planning and development of the colonies of New South Wales and Van Diemen's Land, including Governor Lachlan Macquarie and Surveyor James Meehan as well as Bigge. The park contains memorials to several figures important in the development of Liverpool including Thomas Moore (drinking fountain), T G Scott (gateway), Alex Grimson (music shell) and Dr James Pirie (former baby health clinic, later community centre). The park has contained two war memorials including the current Liverpool Regional War Memorial and is the focus of annual Anzac Day and Armistice Day commemorations. There are strong associations at a local level with local sports including football, cricket, tennis and bowls, the park being the former headquarters of the Liverpool City Bowling Club and the Southern Districts Tennis Association. There are more minor associations with dignitaries who unveiled memorials including former NSW governors Sir Eric Woodward and Sir Roden Cutler VC.

Bigge Park has aesthetic significance at a local level as a designed cultural landscape with several prominent buildings and structures and mature tree plantings. Significant built elements include the Dr Pirie Centre, the T G Scott Memorial Gateway and the Rotary clock tower. The aesthetic values of the park derived from its open spaces and ornamental plantings are compromised to some extent by relatively recent buildings including the bowling club house and tennis club house and the additions and disabled access ramps to the Dr Pirie Centre.

It is likely that Bigge Park has high social significance for particular groups within the contemporary Liverpool community, particularly local sporting groups, those who use the park for passive recreation or attendance at ceremonies such as Anzac Day commemorations and the homeless people who use the park's Music Shell for overnight shelter. Aboriginal land claims over the park by the Gandangara Local Aboriginal Land Council indicate the park has special significance to a group representing local Aboriginal people.

Bigge Park has some technical significance as an example of Macquarie's town planning for the colony of New South Wales and there is potential for further information about the history of the place through ongoing research of archival sources.

Bigge Park has rarity value at a State level as a relatively intact example of one of the few town squares ordered by Governor Lachlan Macquarie and surveyed by James Meehan in the second decade of the 19th century.

Bigge Park is representative of early town squares later dedicated as municipal parks.

While some of the original area of Bigge's Square was appropriated for railway use in the 1850s, the present boundaries are largely unchanged since that time although some sections have been alienated for sectional sporting interests.

The significance of Bigge Park warrants its nomination for inclusion on the State Heritage Register, with appropriate exemptions for routine repairs and maintenance and for implementation of an endorsed CMP.

5.7 Significance of elements

5.7.1 Grades of significance

The table below shows the grades of significance used in ranking the identified built and landscape spaces, features and fabric of a place. It shows how a place can justify a particular level of significance and identifies the preferred conservation management to be used for elements of a particular significance level.

Grading	Justification	Status / Preferred conservation management / Recommendation
Exceptional (E)	Rare or outstanding place of state significance. High degree of original fabric and intactness. Relates to the early phases of the place's development. Probably retains some or all of original function. Place can be interpreted relatively easily.	Fulfil many of criteria for state or local listing. Preservation, restoration, reconstruction are preferred. Should be retained and conserved, possibly with sympathetic adaptation if that is essential to conservation, but maintenance of original use is preferred.
High	High degree of original fabric. Demonstrates a key element of the place's significance. Relates to early or later phases of site development. Function may have changed. Alterations do not detract from significance.	Fulfil some of criteria for State or local listing. Preservation, restoration, reconstruction are preferred but greater allowance for adaptation where this is in accordance with overall significance, intactness / integrity and use.
Moderate	Altered, modified or commonly occurring elements. Probably relates to later phases of site development. Elements with only moderate heritage value, but which contribute to the overall significance of the place.	May fulfil one or more criteria for State or local listing. Retention and conservation where possible. Adaptation and/or alteration permissible. Removal possible if retention compromises conservation of exceptional and/or highly significant elements.

Grading	Justification	Status / Preferred conservation management / Recommendation
Little	Recent or common elements with little or no heritage value. Alterations detract from significance. Difficult to interpret.	Does not fulfil criteria for State or local listing. Retention and conservation where possible. Adaptation and/or alteration permissible. Fewer constraints on removal.
Intrusive	Damaging to the place's heritage significance.	Does not fulfil criteria for State or local listing. Should be removed or modified to reduce adverse impacts.

5.10.2 Grading individual elements

Site Element

Overall site

Path layout

Dr Pirie Centre

Tennis courts

Tennis club house / cafe

Bowling greens

Bowling club house

T G Scott Memorial Gateway

Liverpool Regional War Memorial

Rotary clocktower

Music shell

Former Dressing Shed / Pump House

Children's playground

Liverpool Foundation Commemorative

Obelisk

Thomas Moore Memorial drinking fountain

Basalt boulder & plaque memorial

Memorial against sexual violence

Year of the Tree memorial and planting

Cook Memorial Obelisk (currently in Discovery Park but previously in Bigge Park)

Boundary tree plantings along Bigge Street and Elizabeth Street

Individual ornamental tree plantings within Bigge Park

Significance level

Exceptional (State)

Moderate (local)

High (local)

Moderate (local)

Moderate (local)

Moderate (local)

Building: Nil / intrusive; Associations / Social Values: High (local)

High (local)

High (local)

High (local)

Building: Nil; Association: High (local)

Little

Little

High (local)

Structure: Moderate (local); Association: High (local)

Moderate (local)

Structure: Low (local); Association and Social value: High (local)

Moderate (local)

High (State)

High (local)

High (local)

Site Element	Significance level
Shrub and herbaceous plantings at War Memorial and Pirie Centre	Low (local)
Retaining walls along Bigge Street and Elizabeth Street boundaries	Little (local)
Relationship with adjoining heritage items	Exceptional (State) for relationship with former Liverpool Hospital, former Court House, St Luke's Church and Liverpool street grid pattern.
Archaeological evidence – Aboriginal pre-contact	Not studied for this CMP
Archaeological evidence – Aboriginal post-1788	Not studied for this CMP
Archaeological evidence - historical	Not studied for this CMP but given history of use likely to be low
Intangible values e.g. associations with special events	High (local)

6.0 Issues, opportunities & constraints

6.1 Introduction

The role of the Conservation Policies in this CMP is to provide Liverpool City Council and other stakeholders with specific guidelines for the conservation, ongoing maintenance, development and adaptation of Bigge Park to ensure that the cultural significance of the place is appropriately retained, enhanced and interpreted as part of its ongoing use as a public park.

Development of a useful set of conservation policies requires review and analysis of a range of issues, opportunities and constraints which are generally divided into the following categories.

- Constraints and opportunities arising from significance, including communication of the heritage values of the place;
- Requirements of the site's owners, users, available resources and appropriate uses;
- Constraints arising from the condition of the place;
- Statutory and non-statutory constraints and opportunities.

6.2 Constraints and opportunities arising from significance

The Burra Charter is a guide to good conservation practice. It recommends that significant places be managed in accordance with their significance. While this implies the conservation of significant elements of the place, it also means that there are opportunities for sympathetic adaptive reuse and for potential redevelopment in areas of less significance.

Because the place has been identified as being of local significance and potentially of State significance, there is an obligation on the current and future owners / managers to conserve that significance for the benefit of the people of Liverpool City local government area. The significance of the place also presents opportunities for recognition, interpretation and marketing as part of its ongoing enhancement and management. There are opportunities to remove some redundant structures built for sectional sporting interests to return parts of the park to public open space, thereby enhancing its significance. There is an opportunity to enhance the significant visual links between Bigge Park and the former Liverpool Hospital. Rationalisation of the many memorials in the park also has the potential to enhance the park's heritage values.

6.3 Liverpool City Council's requirements

Liverpool City Council is responsible for the care, control and management of Bigge Park. Ongoing conservation of a significant place requires retention of heritage values in balance with a range of viable, sympathetic uses.

The space and significance of Bigge Park has been eroded and / or modified over the years for external infrastructure needs (railway development and road widening) and for sectional sporting interests (tennis courts, bowling club and greens, dressing shed) and other community uses (Dr Pirie Child Care Centre, Rotary Clock tower, War Memorial, other memorials, children's playground). Some of these developments are significant in their own right but others have had a negative impact on the historic boundaries and values of the park. There are opportunities to remove some of these developments, particularly the disused bowling club and greens. New development is only feasible on the site in locations where it will not adversely affect either significant elements or their settings. The most effective way to control new development is via a Masterplan that is consistent with this CMP and which identifies heritage elements to be retained and appropriate controls for new building location, bulk, form, height, grain and scale.

6.3.1 Current proposals

Current proposals affecting Bigge Park include the following:

Adaptation / conversion of former dressing shed / pump house to a café (opened as a pop-up café on 26 January 2015, pending completion of conversion works);

Implementation of Urbis' Bigge Park Landscape Development Design Package.

The draft urban design concept for the park being finalised by Urbis for Liverpool City Council is generally consistent with and sympathetic to the policies in this CMP and its implementation will make Bigge Park a more vibrant community asset for the future. The proposed creation of a circular path will interpret the playing field for football and cricket which dominated the centre of the park from the 1940s and the creation of nodes at key points around the path will rationalise location of seating, lighting and some of the smaller memorials. The removal of the bowling greens and

potential future removal of the bowling clubhouse and music shell would free up much valuable space for wider public use. The proposed landscape improvements to the eastern side of the park will enhance the historic and visual links between Bigge Park and the Liverpool TAFE (former Liverpool Hospital / Asylum). Proposed edge treatments will help to define the park boundaries while retaining good visual relationships with the CBD and other heritage items in the vicinity. The proposed landscape improvements to the area around the Rotary clocktower will improve its appearance and new paving throughout the park will provide a more unified palette of surface treatments while at the same time reducing trip and slip hazards. The plan also provides a suitable site for the relocation of the historic Cook Obelisk back to Bigge Park.

6.4 Constraints arising from condition & use

Sometimes condition is confused with significance. They are not the same. Condition relates to the physical state of a place relative to an identified range such as mint, good, fair, poor, derelict. An item may be in very poor condition but may be highly significant. In fact many significant old structures and landscapes in Australia are in poor condition due to years of neglect and lack of maintenance. The main constraint arising from physical condition is the need to allow for sufficient expenditure on deferred maintenance as part of any redevelopment / adaptive reuse budget. The condition of Bigge Park and its elements is discussed in section 3.2. The park itself and most trees are in good condition but there are areas of worn surface and numerous examples of damaged paving. Park structures are generally in good condition although the facilities associated with the former bowling club have deteriorated due to lack of use and maintenance.

6.5 Constraints and opportunities arising from statutory requirements

6.5.1 Role of Liverpool City Council

Bigge Park is Crown Land under the care, control and management of Liverpool City Council and should be managed in accordance with the principles of Crown Land management as set out in the *Crown Lands Act 1989*. The park is listed as an item of environmental heritage in Schedule to Liverpool Local Environmental Plan 2008 and is also within the Bigge Park Conservation Area, in which case development on the site will be subject to approval by Liverpool City Council. The LEP includes provisions for the protection of identified heritage items. Development proposals affecting the heritage significance of the place require the consent of Council. Before determining any application, Council is required to consider the impact that the proposal may have on the heritage significance of the site, and may require an applicant to submit a heritage impact statement that assesses the heritage impact of the proposal and recommends measures to mitigate any adverse impacts.

The LEP also includes conservation incentives giving relief, subject to conditions, from certain planning controls that would normally apply to other developments (including permitted uses, car parking and floor space ratios) if that relief will assist the conservation of the heritage item.

6.5.2 NSW Heritage Act

At present Bigge Park is not subject to controls under the NSW *Heritage Act*, except in relation to archaeology i.e. the 'relics' provisions relating to significant sub-surface remains.

Listing on the State Heritage Register & Heritage Council approvals

The *Heritage Act 1977* (NSW) includes provisions for identifying and protecting items of environmental heritage. In addition to the establishment of the State Heritage Register (SHR), a list of items assessed as being of State rather than just local significance, the provisions in the Act include Interim Heritage Orders, Orders to Stop Work and the 'relics' provisions. The Act defines 'relic' as:

Any deposit, artefact, object or material evidence that:

- a) relates to the settlement of the area that comprises New South Wales, not being Aboriginal settlement, and;
- b) is of State or local heritage significance.

Sections 139-145 of the Act prevent the excavation or disturbance of land for the purpose of discovering, exposing or moving a relic, except in accordance with an excavation permit issued by the Heritage Council of NSW.

This CMP recommends the nomination of Bigge Park for inclusion on the State Heritage Register (SHR) which includes items and places (buildings, works, relics, movable objects or precincts) of State heritage significance endorsed by the Heritage Council of NSW and the responsible Minister.

The SHR is established under Section 22 of the Heritage Act, and pursuant to Section 57 (1) of the Act, the approval of the Heritage Council is required for any proposed development within a listed place, including subdivision, works to the grounds or structures or disturbance of archaeological 'relics'. The Heritage Act also requires that the minimum standards of maintenance apply to items listed on the SHR.

Exemptions from Heritage Act approval

Section 57 (2) of the Heritage Act provides for a number of Exemptions to Section 57 (1) approval requirements. Exempted development does not require prior Heritage Council of NSW approval. Exemptions are of two types: Standard and Specific.

Standard Exemptions which apply to all items on the SHR generally include minor and non-intrusive works and are subject to some qualifications in some instances. Typical exempted works include routine maintenance (to buildings and gardens), minor repairs and repainting in approved colours. Standard Exemptions do not apply to the disturbance, destruction, removal or exposure of archaeological 'relics'.

Specific Exemptions include those works specifically approved for a place on the SHR. Applications for Specific Exemptions may be made to the Heritage Council of NSW for particular works or activities in certain areas of the site and / or for some or all of the works specified in a CMP which has been endorsed by the Heritage Council of NSW.

Under the Heritage Act, the Heritage Council of NSW can also delegate its authority to approve certain works or endorsed CMPs.

If included on the SHR, works to Bigge Park will generally require both Heritage Council of NSW and Liverpool City Council approval. There are two ways of streamlining the approval process. One method is to use the Integrated Development Application (IDA) procedures of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (NSW) which provide for a Development Application (DA) to be referred to the Heritage Council of NSW for comments and for those comments to be considered by the consent authority before it determines a DA. An application must still be made for Heritage Council of NSW approval under Section 60 of the Heritage Act, following the exercise of IDA procedures. If however, Section 60 approval is obtained prior to lodgement of the DA, the application is no longer an IDA, as no further approval under the Heritage Act is required.

IDAs and Section 60 Applications generally need to be accompanied by a Conservation Management Plan (CMP) particularly for large and / or complex sites and / or where a significant level of development is proposed. A Heritage Impact Statement (HIS) (also called a Statement of Heritage Impact) is also usually required to accompany IDAs and S.60 Applications. The HIS identifies the significance of the affected place, describes the proposal, assesses its impacts on heritage values and consistency with a CMP or other relevant documents. An HIS should also include recommendations for mitigative measures to reduce adverse impacts.

The listing of Bigge Park on the SHR would also require Liverpool City Council to meet the minimum maintenance requirements set out in Section 118 of the Heritage Act to ensure the ongoing conservation of the park. In a situation in which the site remains in use, as currently, these maintenance requirements should not represent any additional resourcing requirements above keeping the park in sound condition.

Opportunities arising from SHR listing

Listing of a place on the State Heritage Register has a number of benefits. Firstly, it gives recognition of the State level of significance of the place over and above listing on an LEP schedule. Listing would provide Liverpool City Council with improved access to heritage grants. NSW grants for conservation projects are described further at www.environment.nsw.gov.au/heritage/funding/. Technical advice is also available from the Heritage Council's expert committees on a range of issues relevant to the management of places listed on the SHR. Listing of Bigge Park on the SHR would also raise community consciousness of the importance of the place in the history of Liverpool.

6.5.3 Aboriginal Land Claims

Parts of Bigge Park are subject to land claims by the Gandangara Local Aboriginal Land Council. Claim 15664, lodged on 19 March 2008 affects Lot 702, DP 1056246 (the park excluding the Dr Pirie Centre, which is Lot 701, DP 1056246). Claim 16511, lodged 3 September 2008 affects Lot 394, DP 752060, currently occupied by the former Liverpool City Bowling Club premises. These claims have not yet been resolved.

6.5.4 Archaeological Requirements

Definitions

Archaeological potential is based on the likelihood of archaeological material surviving from the historical occupation phases of the site. Archaeological material can contribute to understanding the history and significance of a site. The survival of archaeological material depends on the nature of the archaeological material and on the degree of site disturbance.

Archaeological material has statutory protection under the *Heritage Act* 1977, which prohibits the exposure of *relics*⁸¹. If proposed work is likely to affect known relics or is likely to discover, expose, move, damage or destroy a relic, an excavation permit is required. Permits are issued to archaeologists by the Heritage Council of NSW in accordance with Sections 57 or 140 of the *Heritage Act*, 1977. Permits are approved on the basis of a demonstrated need to disturb the archaeological resource, a research design, the archaeological technique to be employed and the management of excavated material or features left in-situ. Applications for permits require approximately 21 days to consider. Exemptions for maintenance of plumbing and other subterranean services exist and are assessed for each archaeological site.

The National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) has delegated authority to issue excavation permits for some classes of excavation, including work on sites containing Aboriginal archaeological sites. The Aboriginal archaeological potential of the subject site has not been assessed during this CMP. If Aboriginal archaeological material is exposed in the future, work should stop and the NPWS should be contacted.

All archaeological work, whether carried out under a permit or not, must conform to the established professional standards. The archaeological requirements include the archiving of reports and archaeological collections as well as the dissemination of the results as part of the archaeological work.

Moveable items, while not automatically protected under the relics provisions of the *Heritage Act* 1977, are subject to the conservation principles outlined in the Burra

⁸¹ "*relic*" means any deposit, artefact, object or material evidence that:

(a) relates to the settlement of the area that comprises New South Wales, not being Aboriginal settlement, and (b) is of State or local heritage significance. Ref: *Heritage Act* 1977 & *Heritage Amendment Act* 2009 No.34

Charter. (Refer Appendix 1). The retention of moveable items within their historical context greatly enhances the understanding of a place.

Given the continuous use of Bigge Park as public open space, the archaeological potential for non-indigenous cultural heritage is likely to be low although there is potential for sub-surface material evidence of occupation associated with known building sites.

6.6 Constraints arising from Non-Statutory Listings

6.6.1 National Trust of Australia (NSW) Register

National Trust listings are advisory only, and impose no legal constraints. They are however an indication of the importance the Trust, as a long-established and recognised community-based conservation organisation, attaches to a place.

Bigge Park is listed on the Register of the National Trust of Australia (NSW).

Also listed on the Register are the following:

- former Courthouse (corner of Bigge and Moore Streets);
- the Technical College (former Liverpool Hospital), College Street;
- Railway Goods Shed, Bigge Street near Moore Street;
- Recreation Hall (former Chapel), Elizabeth Street, within grounds of hospital;
- Obelisk, Atkinson Street, within Discovery Park.

6.6.2 Register of Significant Buildings in NSW

The Australian Institute of Architects (NSW Chapter) maintains a Register of Significant Buildings in NSW (formerly Register of 20th Century Buildings of Significance) which, like the National Trust Register, has no statutory force but lists buildings considered by the Institute to be architecturally significant.

None of the buildings in Bigge Park is listed on the AIA (NSW Chapter) Register of Significant Buildings in NSW.

Note: The fact that a building or place is not listed on the National Trust Register or on the AIA Register does not mean these organisations do not regard them as significant but possibly only that they have not been investigated.

6.7 Opportunities for heritage interpretation

Interpretation means all the ways of communicating the significance of a place. While buildings and their settings convey a certain amount of information in their fabric and spatial relationships, other information, particularly relating to their history and associations may require communication through a variety of means that may include but are not limited to signage, printed and web-based publications, portable electronic devices, exhibitions and displays, events, school and public programs and face-to-face interpretation. Well-planned and executed interpretation adds significantly to the community's understanding and appreciation of heritage places and is an important part of the conservation process.

There are some existing interpretive signs in Bigge Park, near the corner of Bigge and Elizabeth Streets and in front of the Pirie Centre. The plaques on memorials interpret the history and associations of those elements and the open space of the park in itself helps to interpret the place's significance as part of Liverpool's historic grid pattern.

Interpretation policies are in Sections 7.4.2 and a Site Interpretation Strategy is in Section 9.0.

6.8 Constraints arising from Community Expectations

Given that the place is listed as an item of environmental heritage in the Liverpool LEP 2008, it is reasonable to assume that the community will expect the owners (i.e. Council) to respect the heritage values of the place to be retained in any new development affecting the place.

6.9 Constraints arising from access and other building requirements

Bigge Park is subject to health and safety provisions under various State and Commonwealth Acts. These cover structural adequacy, fire safety, access and occupational health and safety.

6.9.1 Building Code

The Building Code of Australia (BCA) is a national set of building regulations with some state-specific variations. The performance requirements of the BCA are mandatory, although the introductory sections of the Code make it clear that not all requirements will apply to a given case. The Code also includes 'deemed-to-satisfy' requirements which are accepted as meeting the performance requirements. However, the Code also makes provision for alternative ways to meet the performance requirements, subject to satisfactory verification.

Under the Environmental Planning and Assessment (EP&A) Regulation 2000, all new building work must be carried out in accordance with the Building Code of Australia. In the case of an existing building, there is generally no requirement to comply with the BCA.

Certain provisions of the BCA relating to fire safety will apply if the use of an existing building is changed, although the main requirement for change of use is that the structural capacity and fire safety of the building must be appropriate for the new use. The BCA may also be used as a measure of non-compliance if a Notice of Fire Safety Order is issued by a local authority. Where building work occurs with no change of use, as long as the building is not enlarged by more than 50%, the only requirement is that structural capacity and fire safety must not be reduced by the work (EP&A Regulation Clause 143).

6.9.2 Universal access

Access to premises for people with disabilities, as well as being covered by the Building Code of Australia, is also controlled by the *Commonwealth Disability Discrimination Act* (DDA) 1992. Compliance with the BCA does not necessarily signify compliance with the DDA, the operation of which is triggered by a complaint lodged with the Human Rights and Equal Opportunities Commission. Heritage places are not exempt from the requirements of the DDA. The preparation of an action plan for access assists in preventing or defending a complaint under the Act. A defence of unjustifiable hardship is also available, and the Human Rights and Equal Opportunities Commission has advised that heritage significance may be taken into account when considering unjustifiable hardship.

New work health and safety (WHS) laws replaced the occupational health and safety (OHS) laws in NSW on 1 January 2012. These new laws will provide greater consistency, certainty and clarity across Australia making it easier to understand workplace health and safety duties. The *Workplace Health Safety Act 2012* covers the duties of employers to provide safe and healthy workplaces for their employees. Its requirements include the need to provide safe access for maintenance work. The duty of employers also extends to people other than employees, who must not be exposed to risks to their health or safety arising from the employer's undertaking while they are at the employer's place of work.

The Heritage Council's Fire Access and Services Advisory Panel can provide advice to building owners on developing performance-based solutions to fire safety and access in heritage places. Although the Panel's advice has no legal force, it is generally accepted by certifying authorities as an authoritative guide to acceptable alternative solutions under the BCA.

6.10 Landscape management and maintenance issues

The following information on the landscape management and maintenance regime for Bigge Park has been provided by Council.⁸²

- The park is mown weekly throughout the growing season and as required over winter
- The grass is fertilised once a year
- Topdressing of the grass as required
- Gardens are mulched as required
- Trees / shrubs are maintained as required
- The grass and gardens are irrigated as per weather patterns
- The litter is picked up daily and bins are emptied daily

Enhancement and maintenance of Bigge Park has been constrained in the past by the availability of funds and there are opportunities for improvements to the park through implementation of the recommendations in this CMP and implementation of the Bigge Park Precinct design concept. Ongoing maintenance and essential

⁸² Garry Hanlon, pers. comm. 5 November 2014

succession planting programs will require a commitment by Council for adequate funding.

6.11 Appropriate structures in Bigge Park

There has been some concern expressed by Council officers that Bigge Park has become a place for lots of memorials, a convenient location for a disparate array of monuments with little planning of their locations or their impact on the heritage significance of the park. This issue is being addressed both by this CMP and in the Landscape design development package being prepared for Council by Urbis.

7.0 Conservation Policies

This section contains general and specific policies aimed at conserving cultural significance.

7.1 Conservation Principles

Once the heritage significance of a place has been assessed and the obligations that arise from that significance have been identified, the key issues and opportunities relevant to the future management of the place are then reflected in the Conservation Policies in the CMP. These policies should be consistent with the conservation principles and philosophy espoused in the Burra Charter of Australia ICOMOS, the statutory requirements under the NSW *Heritage Act*, relevant planning controls and, where possible, building codes.

7.2 General statement of conservation policy

Policy 0.1: The potential State significance of Bigge Park should be recognised and steps taken to have the park protected under the provisions of the *Heritage Act 1977*.

Policy 0.2: The maxim “Do as much as is necessary, but as little as possible” should be applied to the conservation of significant park features, spaces and fabric.

Policy 0.3: Physical intervention to significant features, spaces and fabric should be avoided, but where unavoidable, it should be minimised and as reversible as possible.

Policy 0.4: Features, spaces and fabric assessed as intrusive or as having little or no significance may be removed or modified.

Policy 0.5: Any proposed changes to parts of the park should be determined through thorough feasibility studies and heritage impact assessments should be made against the policies in this CMP, with recommendations made to minimise any negative aspects of proposed new works.

Policy 0.6: All works to items assessed as of Exceptional or High significance should only be carried out by or under the supervision of appropriately experienced conservation practitioners using approved specifications and / or methodologies.

Policy 0.7: The cumulative significance of all phases of the park's history should be respected, conserved and interpreted.

Policy 0.8: A comprehensive archival record of all additions and alterations recorded on surviving plans, and the park's built and landscape features and fabric and any changes to it, should be made on archival quality media and kept under archival storage conditions by the owner / manager. Such archive record should include "before, during and after" records of all future maintenance, repair, restoration, addition and alteration works undertaken. This information should be used to inform updates of the CMP.

Policy 0.9: A summary statement of building, landscape and fabric safeguard and protection protocols to be observed by all personnel involved on the subject site should be prepared and disseminated to those personnel, to ensure that their actions do not endanger or damage the park, its features and fabric or the heritage values of the place in any way.

Policy 0.10: All landscape elements assessed as having Exceptional or High significance should be conserved unless their retention would compromise the conservation of significant built elements.

Policy 0.11: A risk management policy should be prepared and followed by the owner / manager.

Policy 0.12: Development of the Interpretation Strategy in the CMP should be carried out to develop and enhance public knowledge, understanding and appreciation of Bigge Park.

Policy 0.13: The 'limits of acceptable change' need to be identified to strike an appropriate balance between retention of heritage significance generally and appropriate adaptive reuse in certain places e.g. disused buildings, intrusive elements. The Specific Element Conservation Guidelines in Section 8.2 provide guidance on appropriate interventions in parts of Bigge Park to achieve that balance.

7.3 Individual Policies

Set out in the following sub-sections are individual policies designed to provide future owners / managers with clear guidance on the conservation of the place.

7.3.1 Conservation philosophy

Rationale

Conservation of the place should be in accordance with current best practice in heritage conservation, with the requirement for ongoing input by experienced heritage practitioners and timely review of the CMP.

Policy 1.1: The future conservation and development of Bigge Park should be carried out in accordance with the principles of the Australia ICOMOS Charter for the Conservation of Places of Cultural Significance (Burra Charter).

Policy 1.2: The statement of cultural significance and schedule of significant elements set out in Section 5 should be accepted as the major basis for future planning and work.

Policy 1.3: Where the cultural significance of specific features and fabric proposed for change is not clearly determined by this CMP, the assessment and guidance for appropriate action should be sought from a recognised conservation professional.

Policy 1.4: The policies in this CMP should be endorsed by all parties having jurisdiction over the management of Bigge Park, as a guide to future planning and work.

Policy 1.5: This CMP should be reviewed regularly as the need arises e.g. in response to implementation of policies, natural disasters or changes in the statutory or financial environment or if new information comes to light. Irrespective of such changes, the plan should be reviewed after 5-7 years and no more than 10 years.

Policy 1.6: New development proposals that impact on significant features and fabric of Bigge Park should be subject to peer review and collation of added information, if required, by a recognised conservation professional, with the intent of ensuring conformity with the policies of this CMP.

7.3.2 Interpretation

Rationale

The communication of significance through interpretation has become an integral part of the conservation process. The heritage values of a significant place should be communicated to identified target audiences and the wider community to explain why the place is important and why it should be conserved, in ways that are informative, stimulating and culturally appropriate.

Existing interpretive material on signs and in various publications helps to explain the history of Bigge Park but is scattered in various locations and its accuracy varies. Community awareness and understanding of the significance of the place could be enhanced through the preparation of an Interpretation Plan which communicates the heritage significance of the place and its setting, in the context of the cultural landscape history of the Liverpool local government area and NSW generally.

Revealing previously hidden elements and fabric and defining new elements and fabric as part of reconstruction and adaptation (as recommended in the Australia ICOMOS Burra Charter and general policies section of this report) are associated methods of interpretation in this context. Relocated fabric (e.g. the Cook Obelisk) can demonstrate significant events / changes of practice, etc. over time. Where such occurs, interpretation on site can assist in the understanding of the original and later uses of the place.

Interpretation measures may include physical site elements (such as perimeter fences, gateways, paths, hedges and other landscape features), which interpret past features as well as more formal means such as historic photographs and brief historical accounts.

Policy 2.1: Measures to interpret the major aspects of the significance of Bigge Park appropriately should be incorporated into any conservation and development proposals for the park and the Liverpool CBD as a whole.

Policy 2.2: An Interpretation Plan should be prepared in accordance with Heritage Council policy and guidelines and submitted for approval by Liverpool City Council before any major new works commence on the site.

Policy 2.3: The Interpretation Plan should stimulate appreciation of, pride in and care of Bigge Park among all visitors and in the wider community.

Policy 2.4: The communication of the significance of Bigge Park to park visitors, other identified audiences (e.g. website users) and the wider community should employ culturally appropriate media that do not detract from the heritage values of the place or offend cultural sensitivities. These may include but are not limited to printed and web-based publications, interpretive signage, inclusion on guided or self-guiding walking tours of the area, public art, portable electronic media.

Policy 2.5: Way-finding, informational, interpretive and safety signage should be designed in accordance with a Style Guide that indicates appropriate types of signage for particular parts of Bigge Park and its setting, including sympathetic fixing methods that result in minimal intervention in or impact on heritage values.

Policy 2.6: Preservation, restoration and reconstruction of key significant elements, areas and fabric are the preferred methods of meaningfully interpreting important attributes and associations of the place. Where adaptation is part of the conservation work, measures should be incorporated to show the location, character and / or role of removed or altered elements where appropriate so that all phases of the place's history can be readily understood.

Policy 2.7: Appropriate measures to interpret the history and significance of Bigge Park as a whole should be incorporated into any future development proposals for the place and adjoining lands.

Policy 2.8: The original and subsequent configurations of the place should be interpreted appropriately on the site. Any future alterations and additions should be designed and constructed in a way that preserves and preferably enhances the interpretation of the place. Deliberate differences in design and finish within the place that reflected developments and changing uses over time should be interpreted.

Policy 2.9: Original, early and more recent elements within and around the park should be interpreted in such a way that the historical phases of the place's evolution from planning and construction through to the present day can be readily understood.

Policy 2.10: Information about the place, including this CMP and the progressive records of information derived from intervention in the fabric should be deposited in a public archive where it can be accessed by the community.

7.3.3 Use of significant spaces, features and fabric

Rationale

Significant places must have socially and / or economically viable uses that retain heritage values in balance with sympathetic new development.

Policy 3.1: The policies set out in this document should apply irrespective of the uses to which the park, its spaces, component elements and setting are put.

Policy 3.2: The significant elements to be retained should continue to be used for compatible uses.

Policy 3.3: Should circumstances in the future give rise to changes of use for parts of Bigge Park, new uses should be selected which are most compatible with the retention and recovery of the character and primary significance of the place.

Policy 3.4: Uses with servicing, structural or spatial requirements that would have a strong adverse effect on the character and significance of the place or its significant spaces, features and fabric are unacceptable.

7.3.4 Public access and safety

Rationale

Public access to significant places and the safety of occupants and visitors must comply with current requirements and should be aimed at achieving the most universal access possible within the constraints of heritage conservation.

Policy 4.1: An access plan that is informed by relevant statutory and non-statutory requirements should be devised by Liverpool City Council as manager of the place.

Policy 4.2: Provision of equitable access to the place should be provided only where it can be accomplished without adverse impact on the significance of the place and its elements.

Policy 4.3: Steps at principal entries to significant buildings within Bigge Park should in general be preserved in their original configuration.

Policy 4.4: A fire and life safety strategy for retained buildings should be developed and implemented to preserve their cultural significance while at the same time providing safe egress in the event of fire.

7.3.5 Conservation of significant features, spaces and fabric

Rationale

Conservation should be guided by retention of significant spaces, features and fabric.

Policy 5.1: Unless otherwise stated in these policies, surviving original and early features, spaces and fabric should be retained intact and conserved.

Policy 5.2: Principal spaces within Bigge Park should generally remain un-subdivided unless their subdivision can be achieved without undue negative impact on the cultural heritage value of those spaces.

Policy 5.3: All conservation works should be preceded by thorough analysis of the cause(s) of any deterioration of the item / feature to be conserved, and the preparation of appropriate specifications for the conservation works, and all conservation works undertaken should be monitored for their efficacy.

Policy 5.4: Preservation and restoration are the preferred conservation processes to be used for fabric of exceptional and high significance. (see Section 1.9 for definitions of these terms).

Policy 5.5: Worn or damaged significant fabric, unless positively dangerous, should be allowed to remain, and any associated risk reduced by other compatible means.

7.3.6 Intervention in the fabric

Rationale

Intervention in the fabric of a heritage place should be aimed at achieving a viable adaptive reuse with minimal interference to significant spaces, features and fabric.

Significant elements removed from the place in the past may add to its cultural heritage values and interpretation of its significance. For instance, if significant removed elements (e.g. the Cook Memorial Obelisk) still exist and can be feasibly recovered, consideration could be given to their reconstruction.

Relocated fabric can demonstrate significant events / changes of practice etc. over time. Where such occurs, interpretation on site can lead to a better understanding of the original / later use.

Policy 6.1: If changes to significant built or landscape fabric are required, the approach should be one of minimal intervention in a manner which is as reversible as possible, following the maxim: 'do as much as is necessary, but as little as possible.

Policy 6.2: Intervention for purposes other than conservation of the fabric should occur in areas of lower rather than higher significance.

Policy 6.3: Removal of fabric of exceptional or high significance (see Section 8.2 Specific Element Conservation Guidelines) should be contemplated only where that fabric is beyond repair. In such circumstances this fabric should be replaced in

material(s) and with method(s) which provide the closest match to the fabric being replaced. There may also be instances where fabric of exceptional or high significance has ceased to function and has been proven to contribute actively to the deterioration of other significant fabric. Where multiple elements are present, it may be acceptable to remove some of these elements provided that overall significance is not thereby diminished.

Policy 6.4: All works to the place, including unavoidable alteration or removal of significant fabric, should be recorded to an appropriate archival standard. Records of the work should be maintained by the owner / manager and made available to all those needing access to them for information. These records should be used to update the CMP as necessary.

Policy 6.5: Any demolition carried out to built or landscape elements within Bigge park should be performed with extreme care, with the objective of removing the minimum amount of material, and recovering as much significant fabric as possible in re-useable condition. Materials or elements which have any likelihood of being re-used in future conservation and / or adaptive reuse works should be protected, catalogued and stored. Storage should be in a safe location, preferably on the site.

Policy 6.6: Attempts should be made to recover from site or elsewhere any significant materials or elements known to have been removed previously, and those elements should be reused in the conservation and / or interpretation of the place.

Policy 6.7: Where fabric needs to be added to or relocated within significant spaces, it should match adjacent original fabric while being on close inspection distinguishable from the original. Wherever possible, existing fabric which can be demonstrated to have been moved from its first place of installation should be returned to that place unless there is a compelling interpretive reason for leaving that fabric in its current location.

7.3.7 Alterations and additions to significant fabric and spaces

Rationale

Alterations and additions to significant spaces and fabric should be aimed at retaining significance while achieving viable adaptive reuse of those spaces and fabric. Proposed works should be guided by Section 8.2 Specific Element Conservation Guidelines.

Policy 7.1: Alterations and additions to original or early fabric of the park should be confined to:

1. the removal of intrusive elements, and elements of little significance that interfere with interpretation, when they are no longer needed
2. the removal of elements of little or no significance that are contributing to the deterioration of original or early fabric. It is also possible that an element of higher significance may need to be replaced if its retention is shown to be jeopardising the conservation of the place as a whole;

3. the reinstatement where appropriate of original or early fabric that has since been removed and for which good evidence exists
4. works to conserve the existing significant fabric, and
5. fully reversible works to adapt the building(s) for changing uses as required.

An example to illustrate point (2) above could be where an original gutter profile and size can be shown to be inadequate to cope with heavy water flows, necessitating its replacement with a larger non-original type.

Decisions on point (3) above need to be based on the acceptance that the place has cumulative significance, from design and construction through all phases of its use and future repurposing.

Policy 7.2: Any alterations and additions to a significant building (e.g. the Pirie Centre) should be confined to very minor works that are complementary and subservient to the original.

This policy implies that wherever new work is added to old work, the new work should be shaped to fit the old rather than the old being altered to accommodate the new. It also implies that the original and early fabric should remain visually prominent after the alteration or addition.

Policy 7.3: Any new elements should respect the existing aesthetic significance of the significant spaces, features and fabric of Bigge Park.

Policy 7.4: Alterations and additions to the basic building envelope of significant buildings (e.g. the Dr Pirie Centre) which would be readily visible from the public domain, such as the removal of chimneys, changes in roof pitch, changes to door or window opening sizes and the addition of balconies, should not be considered.

Policy 7.5: The addition to the exterior of building(s) of plant or equipment items such as air conditioning units, satellite dishes, television aerials, water tanks and solar panels or hot water units, and associated ducting, pipework and cabling should be permitted only in unobtrusive locations that are least visible from the public domain.

Current conservation philosophy dictates that new fabric introduced to repair damage should be obvious as such on close inspection. The style of any new additions and alterations should be guided by the location and its significance and visibility.

Any new building(s) within the curtilage of Bigge Park should be subservient in location, form, scale, grain, mass, bulk, materials and exterior finishes to the significant form and fabric of the park and its setting. This is not to say that a new element cannot be architecturally interesting and innovative.

Policy 7.6: When practicable, later partitions of the park that have been identified as having low significance value, and which mask or hide earlier features and fabric of higher significance value, should be removed and the original space restored or

adapted in a way that is useful and which recovers or respects the original significance. Where features and fabric of any significance are removed, a record of this should be made for interpretation purposes to enable conveying of the story of development of the place over time.

7.3.8 Detailed policies on conservation of significant fabric

Rationale

Retention and care of significant building fabric must be guided by current best practice in materials conservation, using methods appropriate to the particular type of fabric and traditional methods of construction and repair. The following policies relate primarily to significant buildings and should be considered in conjunction with the policies in Conservation Management Plan for the Pire Centre. Some of these policies are relevant to significant structures such as the Rotary clocktower and the Cook Memorial obelisk.

Policy 8.1: Significant original and early masonry units should be retained intact and maintained in accordance with policies 12.1 to 12.6. Where repairs are required to masonry units (e.g. bricks, sandstone blocks), the original masonry units should be reused wherever possible, or recycled units of the same size, shape and matching colour as the originals. Any new masonry units added to significant elements should be laid with mortar and pointing of matching appearance, strength, composition and finish detail to the original. Where previous repairs are causing the original materials to deteriorate, they should over time be replaced using the original material. Consolidants or sealants should not be used on original fabric unless proven to have no negative impact on the original fabric and to be of enduring benefit to it.

Policy 8.2: Original pointing and mortar material and its finish detailing should be retained wherever possible. Mortar testing is recommended. Where repair or replacement work is to be undertaken, mortar trials should be carried out to find the recipe that is the closest match in colour, texture, strength and ingredients to those originally used in each phase of the building's construction, so as to enable their replication. It is also essential that the style in which the pointing was originally finished in the phases of the building's construction are also identified and then replicated in any future repairs. Be aware that there may be a number of different mortar recipes and pointing styles present throughout the building which relate to a particular phase of construction which should be replicated. Repointing if required should be carried out to match existing work without widening of existing masonry joints, in a mortar of similar appearance and strength to the original. Areas of previous pointing using inappropriate materials or methods should be removed and reconstructed.

Policy 8.3: Original or early doors and windows including glazing, hinges, locks and fasteners should be retained and repaired as required for adequate weatherproofing and to preserve the maximum amount of original fabric. Where original elements have deteriorated beyond repair, they should be carefully salvaged for future interpretation. These elements and any missing elements should then be reconstructed.

Policy 8.4: Early window glass in significant buildings should be retained and re-used wherever possible.

Policy 8.5: Physical security of early or original doors and windows in significant buildings should be accomplished using traditional methods which do not affect the significant visual qualities of the particular facades or walls affected nor lead to damage of significant fabric.

Policy 8.6: A system of locks and keys which requires as little adaptation as possible to existing doors and windows should be developed and maintained so as to minimise the need for changes of locks in the future. Where necessary, doors and frames should be carefully patched and repaired in solid timber. In addition, original door locks should be retained, if possible restored to working order and provided if necessary with appropriate keys.

Policy 8.7: Where temporary security needs to be provided to door and window openings in significant buildings to prevent unauthorised access to a building or buildings that are unoccupied for any length of time, any work to secure the openings should be undertaken by tradespersons experienced with heritage buildings, working under appropriate professional supervision. Damage to significant fabric should be avoided. All security work, as for any work, should be recorded in accordance with Policy 6.4.

Policy 8.8: Existing significant roof forms, cladding and accessories should be preserved and maintained in accordance with policies 12.1 to 12.6. They should be repaired and, if necessary, refinished with traditional roofing finishes to prolong their life. Only when the roofing is beyond repair should it be replaced in like kind to the original, using traditional materials and fastenings. Original and early elements of the roof structure should be preserved and repaired rather than replaced. Gutters and downpipes should have a profile appropriate for the age and style of the building.

Policy 8.9: All exterior and interior unpainted surfaces on significant buildings that were originally intended to be unpainted should remain unpainted. Exposed surfaces originally intended to be unpainted which have subsequently been painted, should when practicable be returned to their original state.

Policy 8.10: Exposed surfaces on significant buildings which were previously painted and originally intended for painting as a preservative measure should be repainted when needed, bearing in mind technical and heritage requirements. Sound painted surfaces should be repainted without disturbing the original surfaces underneath except in circumstances where painting over existing paint may result in premature failure. In such cases, the original finishes should be recorded for layers, colours and types and the surface repainted in type and colour appropriate to the feature, space or fabric. Surviving significant decorative schemes should be preserved.

Policy 8.11: Research and paint surveys should be undertaken into the original and early decorative treatments of both the interior and exterior of significant buildings.

This research should be undertaken prior to any major removal of unsound old paint for redecoration or alteration. Significant early finishes should be preserved and interpreted on the site. Where appropriate, significant spaces should be redecorated in a way which reproduces or reflects the character of the original scheme.

Policy 8.12: Treatment of damp problems within significant buildings should focus on accurate diagnosis, locating and dealing with the sources of water through good drainage, and improving sub-floor ventilation (using mechanical ventilation if necessary), while minimising irreversible alterations or additions to original fabric. Non-invasive methods such as the use of sacrificial renders may also be effective in preserving the original fabric.

7.3.9 Archaeology

Rationale

Bigge Park has been occupied by Europeans since 1810 and may contain archaeological evidence of that occupation, including potential sub-surface material. Identification, assessment and conservation of archaeological material are integral parts of the conservation process and must be guided by relevant statutory controls and best practice in historical archaeology.

The definition of 'relic' in the NSW *Heritage Act*, 1977 has been amended several times since the act was introduced. A relic is currently defined in the Heritage Act as 'any artefact, object or material evidence which relates to the settlement of the area that comprises New South Wales, not being Aboriginal settlement, and which is of State or local heritage significance.'

The significant change in this most recent amendment to the definition is the requirement that the relic must be of State or local heritage significance, rather than just being more than 50 years old (previous definition) or dated prior to 1 January 1900 (original 1977 *Heritage Act* definition). Given the age and significance of Bigge Park, it is likely that any archaeological artefacts, objects or other sub-surface material evidence found on the site will be of at least local significance.

Consequently, the statutory provisions of the Heritage Act are likely to apply to both evidence unearthed by chance as a result of routine maintenance and other activities and also works proposed to restore or reconstruct historical built or landscape elements.

The NSW Heritage website provides the following advice for developers.

What to do if an archaeological relic or artifact is found?

If you think that you have found an archaeological relic or site, ring the historical archaeologists at the Heritage Division, Office of Environment and Heritage on (02) 9873 8500. Do not remove or disturb the relic in any way. Depending on the nature of the find, you may be required to undertake some archaeological investigation on the site. These investigations may require a permit under the Heritage Act.

Aboriginal sites and artefacts are protected under the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974*. Enquiries about these sites should be directed to your local NPWS office.

How to apply for an excavation permit

If you are excavating land and know that you will disturb a relic, or think that you might disturb a relic, then you need to get an excavation permit issued by the Heritage Council of NSW. To find out more or to download an application form, go to the 'Permits and Applications' page of the Heritage Division website www.heritage.nsw.gov.au

Policy 9.1: Any disturbance of the sub-surface, for installation of services and the like, shall comply with the requirements of the NSW Heritage Act 1977, as amended. The minimum requirement is for an archaeological assessment by a qualified archaeologist.

Policy 9.2: Any work involving disturbance of original building cavities on a significant building to be retained should also be subject to assessment by a qualified archaeologist.

Policy 9.3: Archaeological evidence should be retained in situ wherever possible and, subject to materials conservation requirements, used in the subsequent interpretation of the history and heritage values of the place.

7.3.10 Compliance with building regulations

Rationale

Adaptation of heritage places for sympathetic new uses often requires compliance with building regulations applicable to those new uses. Examples include compliance with mobility access, fire and life safety requirements. Selection of appropriate new uses should take into account the impact of such compliance on the heritage values of the place and whether any dispensations from full compliance are available.

Policy 10.1: Significant built elements to be retained should not be used for any purpose for which compliance with building regulations will adversely affect their significance.

This policy is not intended to rule out, for example, the sympathetic installation of fire safety equipment to enable a building to continue to be used.

Policy 10.2: Prior to initiating any new or upgraded use for Bigge Park or a significant building within its boundaries, building code requirements for such use are to be determined. Where these requirements would have a negative impact on significance, dispensations from full compliance should be sought so as to minimise negative impact. Where such dispensations cannot be gained, or where negative impact cannot be adequately reduced, such new use should not be proceeded with.

Policy 10.3: Compliance with building regulations should be achieved using their objectives and performance requirements rather than deemed-to-satisfy provisions.

7.3.11 Installation of services

Rationale

It is important that services to heritage places be provided in a sensitive manner. Services and utilities such as water supply, drainage, power, phone and internet cabling should be provided in a manner which poses minimal environmental impact on the historic fabric or aesthetic qualities of the park, its built elements and its setting.

Policy 11.1: Incoming services to the place should preferably be installed underground, subject to archaeological compliance and investigation.

Policy 11.2: Vertical and horizontal channels for the reticulation of services in significant buildings should be located and designed in a way that will have the minimum adverse effect on fabric and spaces of significance. In general, new services within a building should by preference be concealed within existing building cavities or behind new surfaces, or, if this not possible, surface mounted using reversible methods with minimal damage to significant fabric, or. Any interference in building cavities for services should be preceded by archaeological investigation.

Policy 11.3: Services should not be permitted to discharge liquid or gas in a way which will cause deterioration in significant built or landscape fabric.

Policy 11.4: Wherever possible, penetrations required for new services in significant fabric should be made where it has previously been penetrated.

Policy 11.5: New facilities in significant spaces should preferably be installed in spaces originally constructed for that purpose, and should not be added within principal spaces.

Policy 11.6: Upgrading services, equipment or finishes in original or early spaces should be done in a way that conserves original elements wherever possible. Where new services or wall or floor finishes need to be installed, this should be done by covering and protecting the original elements and installing the new material over them. Stand-alone and reversible techniques for installation of new fixtures, fittings, wall linings, etc. should be employed to meet new use requirements.

7.3.12 Maintenance and Repair

Rationale

Timely maintenance and repair based on regular inspection and technically sound and appropriate construction methods are fundamental to any conservation program. Where a building has remained empty for some time, with no regular use, deferred maintenance can lead to problems with water penetration, blocked drains, invasion by feral animals, etc.

Policy 12.1: All significant spaces, structures and plantings should be cared for by a proactive planned maintenance and repair program based on a comprehensive knowledge of the items, their materials and construction technologies, followed up with regular inspection and prompt preventative maintenance and repair.

Policy 12.2: Maintenance and other building and landscape works should be undertaken only by tradespeople with relevant qualifications / skills and experience in the specific type of work to be undertaken. All repair and maintenance work to be fully specified and supervised by a suitably qualified / experienced architectural conservator, skilled in the range of works to be undertaken. Tradespersons engaged in works are to be conversant with and committed to execution of their works in accordance with the principles and practices of the Australia ICOMOS Burra Charter, relevant statutory requirements and industry best practice.

Policy 12.3: Particular attention should be given to keeping in good order all the systems which prevent water penetration into the fabric of significant built elements and conduct water safely from the built element and its footings.

Policy 12.4: Regular inspections should be made of built elements subject to rot, insect attack, damp and / or corrosion to ensure prompt preventative maintenance and repair. Access for inspections should be made using the existing openings wherever possible. Any new openings should be made in fabric of little significance, in locations out of public view.

Policy 12.5: Previous maintenance or repair works using inappropriate materials or methods should be replaced, when practicable or necessary, using materials and methods which replicate the original, or otherwise retain the significance of the fabric as a whole. Such work to be carried out in accordance with policy 12.2.

Policy 12.6: Priority for conservation should be assessed primarily according to the relative significance of the feature or fabric requiring conservation, and the degree of threat to, or erosion of significance, in the advent of delay in conservation being undertaken.

7.3.13 Maintaining Bigge Park as public open space

Rationale

This policy group provides a framework for interpreting key aspects of the original function and use of Bigge Park as public open space and its subsequent evolution as a public park as part of its conservation, on-going development and interpretation.

Policy 13.1: The functional importance of the layout of Bigge Park should be maintained and / or interpreted by:

- Retaining the current boundaries which reflect the post 1850s curtilage of the park;
- Retaining Bigge Park as public open space;
- Not allowing any further internal subdivisions of the park;
- maintaining the significant visual and physical links between the various significant built and landscape elements on site and in the vicinity; and

- conserving the significant built and landscape elements and their settings;
- investigating the potential return of some areas previously alienated for sectional interests to public open space; and
- investigating, recording and interpreting where appropriate the archaeological evidence of the original / earlier phases of the park's development.

7.3.14 Conservation of significant views and vistas

Rationale

Views and vistas to, from and within heritage places can be very important aspects of their heritage significance. Many buildings are sited to take advantage of local, regional or distant views and visual access to heritage places can greatly enhance their appreciation and understanding by the public. Significant views to, from and within Bigge park are identified on Figure 51.

Policy 14.1: *Significant views to, from and within the subject site should be conserved and wherever possible enhanced, as follows:*

- *the significant view corridor between Bigge Park and the former Liverpool Hospital;*
- *significant views and vistas within the park;*
- *significant views from surrounding streets into Bigge Park.*

Policy 14.2: The delineation of significant existing and historic views will require more detailed analysis and documentation prior to the design of any future works that may impact upon these views.

Policy 14.3: New development should be designed in such a way that it enhances visual access to and from significant spaces and elements within and adjacent to the park without imposing additional negative visual impacts on the park or its conservation area setting.

7.3.15 'Good housekeeping'

Rationale

'Good housekeeping' is an important part of the management of a heritage place, including careful control of waste storage and disposal and best practice in keeping the place tidy and in good condition during any works. Poorly located rubbish bins and untidy compost heaps can have a negative visual impact on a significant landscape.

Policy 15.1: Receptacles for on-site storage of rubbish, garden waste, landscape materials (e.g. mulch, compost) and building materials should be located in such a way that they do not detract from the aesthetic values of Bigge Park, its significant elements or its setting.

Policy 15.2: Care should be taken to ensure that the site is retained in a tidy condition during and after any construction or repair works. Contractors engaged in conservation work should be required to maintain the site in a tidy state during their

works, to clear away rubbish progressively as it is generated, and to clean up and remove all surplus materials such as cement, adhesives, drop sheets, packaging materials from site when they have completed their work.

7.3.16 Landscape conservation

Rationale

Conservation of heritage places, particularly landscapes, inevitably involves change as plants go through their life cycle. Trees and other plantings are living things with a finite lifespan. While their safe and useful life can be maximised by careful species selection, good establishment practices and sound management, provision also needs to be made for their staged replacement in due course by means of a thoroughly researched Succession Planting Plan.

Policy 16.1: Landscape management should conform to relevant Australian Standards (e.g. AS 4373 Formative Pruning) and current best practice in arboriculture as recommended by relevant industry representative groups.

Policy 16.2: Decisions on whether to retain or remove particular trees should be based on their relative significance, safety, amenity value and contribution to the landscape as a whole.

Policy 16.3: Weeds and problem species including self-sown woody species should be controlled and / or removed under ongoing maintenance programs in collaboration with adjoining landholders. Noxious weeds, as listed in the Noxious Weed declarations for Liverpool City local government area, must be controlled in accordance with the declaration. For current declarations see: <http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/agriculture/pests-weeds/weeds>

Policy 16.4: The presence of any feral animals such as pigeons, feral cats and rodents or native animals such as possums or grey-headed flying foxes should be monitored, and any adverse impacts on significant items and areas, vegetation and wildlife recorded. Feral animals should be controlled using methods approved by Liverpool City Council and other responsible authorities.

Policy 16.5: Any new plantings / gardens should be designed in keeping with significant landscape elements, with design and materials consistent with or at least not in conflict with that particular part of the place.

Policy 16.6: Given the importance of the views to, from and within Bigge Park, new plantings should be selected and located in such a way that they enhance significant views, not block or detract from them.

Policy 16.7: The existing boundary tree plantings along the Bigge Street and Elizabeth Street boundaries should be retained as significant landscape elements that mark the edge of the park and help to identify it in the Liverpool CBD.

Policy 16.8: Choice of species for new plantings in Bigge Park should be based on the relative significance of the area, appropriateness for the period, suitability for the location, ease of maintenance and use (e.g. screening, visitor control, floral display). The placement and selection of larger specimen trees should be carefully planned to avoid root damage to buildings and services, blocking of views, inappropriate mature dimensions, or incompatibility with the established open character of the landscape.

Policy 16.9: A thoroughly researched succession planting plan should be prepared for the staged replacement of significant trees and shrubs.

7.3.17 Need for a Landscape Master Plan

Rationale

Landscaping is often inadequately funded and planned. A landscape master plan prepared by a landscape architect or designer with appropriate qualifications, skills and experience in heritage landscapes will provide a sound basis for site landscaping that is complementary to the heritage values of Bigge Park. Development consents often include a condition for a landscape plan that shows scientific and common names and life forms (e.g. tree, shrub, climber, ground cover) for all plant species to be used, heights / canopy spreads at maturity, numbers of each species to be used and establishment / maintenance requirements.

At the time of preparation of this CMP a new urban design concept plan for the Bigge Park Precinct was nearing completion.

Policy 17.1: New site landscaping should be in accordance with a thoroughly researched Landscape Master Plan for Bigge Park that is compatible with this CMP and provides for conservation of significant landscape elements and introduction of new hard and soft landscaping that maintains the heritage significance and character of the site while providing for current / future needs and uses.

7.3.18 Protection of setting & control of development of adjoining lands

Rationale

The protection of the setting of heritage places is an essential part of significance retention, recognised by Australia ICOMOS in the Burra Charter. Proposed changes in land use or development of adjoining lands need to be carefully examined by management for any potential impacts on the quality of setting. Bigge Park is not only a significant historic open space in its own right but it is situated within a Conservation Area and is part of the Macquarie / Meehan grid pattern town plan for Liverpool.

Policy 18.1: Liverpool City Council should liaise with adjoining land holders (e.g. TAFE, Transport / Sydney Trains) to ensure that sites adjoining Bigge Park are developed and / or managed to conserve the heritage significance of the park, The Bigge Park Conservation Area and other heritage items in the vicinity.

Policy 18.2: Liverpool City Council should monitor proposed developments (e.g. new buildings within the visual catchment of the park) or infrastructure projects (e.g. road

widening, railway upgrades) to ensure that any new adjoining development is sympathetic to the heritage values of Bigge Park.

Policy 18.3: Council should investigate opportunities for improved connections between Bigge Park and the Liverpool Railway Station and the nearby open space along Georges River corridor.

7.3.19 Amendment to SHI listing & nomination for SHR listing

Rationale

Many items of environmental heritage listed on the SHR or in LEP heritage schedules were identified and assessed in previous heritage studies and the amount and veracity of information on them can vary considerably. The research and assessment necessary for preparation of a CMP usually provides considerable additional documentary and physical evidence which can be used for a review of current listings and may suggest further levels of recognition and protection.

Policy 19.1: The information gathered during preparation of this CMP should be used to amend the listing of Bigge Park and its significant elements on the State Heritage Inventory (SHI) database and in Council's records.

Policy 19.2: Bigge Park should be nominated for inclusion on the State Heritage Register, with a recommendation for standard exemptions and exemptions for implementation of the CMP once endorsed.

7.3.20 Preparation of Heritage Impact Statements

Rationale

Listing of an item on the SHR and / or LEP heritage schedule will usually necessitate the preparation of a heritage impact statement / statement of heritage impact for any proposed development that is not routine maintenance and repairs, not minor in nature or that is not covered under exemptions.

Policy 20.1: Prior to any major development work in Bigge Park a Heritage Impact Statement should be prepared by an appropriate heritage specialist in accordance with the guidelines in the NSW Heritage Manual and subsequent amendments and any requirements by Liverpool City Council and, if the place is SHR-listed, the Heritage Council of NSW.

7.3.21 Endorsement and dissemination of this CMP

Rationale

It is important that Liverpool City Council endorse the CMP to indicate that it agrees to adhere to the conservation management policies it contains. The CMP should also be submitted to the Heritage Council of NSW for endorsement concurrently with a nomination for SHR listing.

Conservation management plans usually contain considerable documentary evidence that adds to our knowledge and understanding of significant places. Wider

dissemination of this material can increase community understanding and appreciation of such places.

Policy 21.1: Liverpool City Council should endorse the CMP as the guiding document for the future conservation management of Bigge Park.

Policy 21.2: The CMP should be submitted to the Heritage Council of NSW for endorsement concurrently with a nomination for listing of Bigge Park on the State Heritage Register.

Policy 21.3: Lodge copies of this CMP with Liverpool City Council Library Local Studies collection and the Heritage Division, Office of Environment and Heritage.

7.3.22 Archival recording

Rationale

Recording changes to heritage places is an important part of the conservation process, enabling managers to understand what works have been carried out in the past and to evaluate the efficiency and effectiveness of such works.

Policy 22.1: Undertake archival and photographic recording before major changes take place, in accordance with Heritage Council guidelines. Lodge copies of the archival record with Liverpool City Council Library Local Studies collection and the Heritage Division, Office of Environment and Heritage.

8.0 Heritage Conservation Guidelines

8.1 Introduction

Assessments of the significance of specific elements and consequent decisions on their future retention and conservation, adaptation or removal require an answer to the question of whether the place has cumulative significance or not. Does the significance of the place reach its end point at a particular time and can it be soundly argued that everything after this period is unsympathetic and obscures significance and understanding of the site's history? If so, then this judgement should be reflected in the levels of intervention into the fabric of the place. However, if it is argued that the significance of the place is cumulative and dates up to and including the present day, then fabric that was in existence at the time of any change may have significance. The levels of significance may differ depending on the criteria. More recent fabric may have less value (in terms of historical significance) than original fabric but certain later fabric may have a higher rarity value and social value than some earlier fabric.



This CMP argues that Bigge Park does have cumulative significance since all phases of its evolution up to the present day tell parts of an ongoing story about the place and its associated events and persons, however some spaces, features and fabric are more significant than others, satisfying different criteria to different degrees.

This CMP does not recommend removal of fabric unless it is deemed unsympathetic (intrusive) or is deemed a material risk to a significant structure (e.g. a fire risk or

structural instability). The CMP may indicate in order of preference that if fabric is required to be modified or removed it should not be 'original fabric'; ideally not 'later fabric'; only if essential, 'recent fabric'. The heritage inventory allocates values against various criteria: historical significance, associational values, social significance, rarity, etc. Aesthetics can be one of the values to be assessed but judgement on whether a feature, element or space can be modified or removed cannot be based merely on aesthetic grounds. The policies and guidelines in this CMP are designed to guide Council to reach decisions which are well-informed and which are based on an understanding of the impact on both tangible and intangible values, where the least significance is removed to achieve a reasonable and viable use for the park or its component elements.


8.2 Specific Element Conservation Guidelines


The following table lists significant built and landscape elements within the curtilage of Bigge Park with thumbnail images, history / key values and issues / management recommendations for each element. In all cases, if it is decided that any elements can be removed or demolished, they should first be recorded to an archival standard established by the Heritage Council of NSW, and any components or materials that could be used to conserve the most significant elements on the site should be carefully marked prior to demolition, salvaged, recorded and securely stored until conservation works proceed.


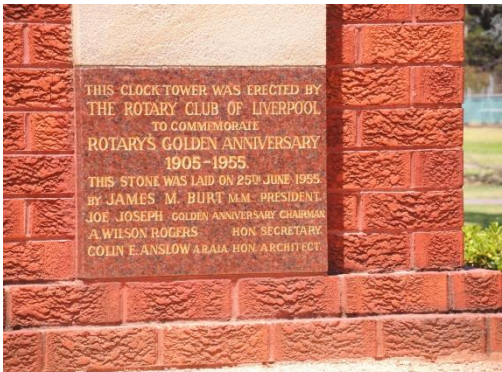


Element	Significance	Issues / Conservation Management
		
Overall site	Exceptional (State) reflecting boundary post 1850s	Retain curtilage intact, without further subdivisions, and manage to conserve significant elements and enhance heritage values by improved landscaping and development consistent with this CMP and an endorsed Landscape Masterplan





Element	Significance	Issues / Conservation Management
 		
Path layout	Moderate (local)	Rationalise and enhance in accordance with this CMP and Landscape Masterplan to retain significant axial paths and enhance significant visual links e.g. between Bigge Park and former Liverpool Hospital and public access
Element	Significance	Issues / Conservation Management
 		
Dr Pirie Centre	High (local)	Retain and conserve in accordance with this CMP and the CMP for the Pirie Centre. For any future proposals consider removal or improvement of intrusive additions to rear of building. Investigate ways of reducing visual impact of disabled access ramps

Element	Significance	Issues / Conservation Management
		
Tennis courts	Moderate (local)	Retain while viable and manage to minimise visual impacts on the park
Element	Significance	Issues / Conservation Management
 		
Tennis club house / Courtside Cafe	Moderate (local)	Retain while viable and manage to minimise visual impacts on the park. Enhance surroundings in accordance with endorsed Landscape Masterplan

Element	Significance	Issues / Conservation Management
 		
Bowling greens	Moderate (local)	Remove and return area to general park use, interpreting previous use. Opportunity to improve axial link between Bigge Park and former Liverpool Hospital
Element	Significance	Issues / Conservation Management
		
Bowling club house	Building: Little / intrusive; Associations / Social Values: High (local)	Remove building and return area to general park use, interpreting previous use



Element	Significance	Issues / Conservation Management
		
T G Scott Memorial Gateway	High (local)	Retain and conserve in accordance with policies in this CMP
Element	Significance	Issues / Conservation Management
		
Liverpool Regional War Memorial	High (local)	Retain and conserve in accordance with policies in this CMP

Element	Significance	Issues / Conservation Management
		
Rotary clocktower	High (local)	Retain and conserve in accordance with policies in this CMP; Improve planter beds, paving and planting in accordance with endorsed Landscape Masterplan
Element	Significance	Issues / Conservation Management
		
Music shell	Little	Retain or remove and interpret structure and associations

Element	Significance	Issues / Conservation Management
		
Former Dressing Shed / Pump House	Little	Adapt or remove for sympathetic new use e.g. café; interpret past uses
Element	Significance	Issues / Conservation Management
		
Children's playground	Little	Retain and manage in accordance with this CMP and relevant security and safety requirements; maintain and upgrade as necessary; investigate ways to interpret park history through design of play equipment

Element	Significance	Issues / Conservation Management
		
Liverpool Foundation Commemorative Obelisk	Moderate (local)	Retain and conserve in situ or relocate within park in accordance with endorsed Landscape Masterplan
Element	Significance	Issues / Conservation Management
		
Thomas Moore Memorial drinking fountain	Structure: Moderate (local); Association: High (local)	Retain and conserve memorial plaque. Structure could be relocated within park or plaque incorporated in a new, better designed and more practical structure

Element	Significance	Issues / Conservation Management
		
Basalt boulder & plaque Heritage Day memorial	Moderate (local)	Retain and conserve in situ or relocate to more suitable location in accordance with endorsed Landscape Masterplan
Element	Significance	Issues / Conservation Management
		
Memorial against sexual violence	Structure: Low (local); Association and Social value: High (local)	Retain and conserve in situ or relocate within park in accordance with endorsed Landscape Masterplan
Element	Significance	Issues / Conservation Management
		
Year of the Tree memorial plaque	Moderate (local)	Retain and conserve in situ or relocate within park in accordance with endorsed Landscape Masterplan

Element	Significance	Issues / Conservation Management
		
Hiroshima Atomic Bomb 40 th Anniversary Memorial Plaque	Moderate (local)	Retain and conserve in situ or relocate within park in accordance with endorsed Landscape Masterplan
Element	Significance	Issues / Conservation Management
		
Relationship with adjoining heritage items	Exceptional (State) for relationship with former Liverpool Hospital and Liverpool street grid pattern; High (State) for relationship with former Court House, St Luke's church and Railway Station	

Element	Significance	Issues / Conservation Management
	<p>High (local) for boundary tree plantings along Bigge Street and Elizabeth Street and for major ornamental tree plantings within the Park.</p> <p>Low (local) for shrub and herbaceous plantings at War Memorial and Pirie Centre.</p>	<p>Retain and conserve trees in accordance with this CMP , endorsed Landscape Masterplan and a Succession Planting Plan.</p> <p>Retain or replace shrub and herbaceous plantings in accordance with previous recommendations for suitable species and endorsed Landscape Masterplan.</p>

9.0 Interpretation Strategy for Bigge Park

9.1 *The need for an Interpretation Plan*

Bigge Park is a very important historic designed landscape with layers of significance for Liverpool and New South Wales, associations with a wide range of people and personalities and rarity value as one of the few surviving examples of Macquarie era town planning. It is essential that its significance be communicated to the public by way of a thoroughly researched Interpretation Plan. The plan should be prepared by suitably qualified interpretation specialists in accordance with the Heritage Council of NSW policies and guidelines for the interpretation of heritage places and any requirements by Liverpool City Council.

The Interpretation Plan should summarise the historical and geographical context of Bigge Park and its importance to the community. It will establish interpretation and education goals for the place and identify relevant interpretive stories that reflect Australian, New South Wales and local historical themes. The plan will recommend strategies, specific locations and methods by which the heritage significance of the place can be communicated to the public and future users of the park in culturally appropriate ways that respect the heritage values of the place.

The plan will identify interpretation and education opportunities at Bigge Park based on analysis of current best practice for comparable places in Australia and overseas to deliver facilities, programs and media that support the vision for the place in the best possible ways.

The plan will take into account the recommendations and guidelines of all current planning and management documents and will be guided by advice from the community, industry and other relevant stakeholders to ensure that information, interpretation and education programs are well integrated, cost-effective and sustainable.

The plan will include:

- audience profile and analysis (target audiences and their needs);
- Interpretation policy (principles and procedures to be followed);
- Interpretation strategy (overall vision for interpretation);
- indicative costings for each element of the works recommended in the Interpretation Plan;
- preliminary concepts for any signage and an example of the content for signage;
- preliminary concepts for other delivery mechanisms (e.g. electronic media, web-based publications)
- implementation and resources (logical sequence for implementation and future management);
- evaluation (process of evaluating the effectiveness of the interpretation).

9.2 Suggested approach and methodology

The suggested approach to the preparation of the Interpretation Plan includes the following steps:

- Review of relevant historical and planning documentation, including baseline studies of the cultural landscape to identify place, context and associations;
- Analysis of natural and cultural heritage values to enable assessment of significance;
- Review of current New South Wales interpretive policy and guidelines and relevant education curriculum areas;
- Review of Australian and overseas current best practice in interpretation and education outside the classroom to identify appropriate principles and programs;
- Understanding of the special connections between people and place relevant to the subject site, including identification of any individuals or groups with a proprietary or custodial interest in the interpretive planning for the place;
- Identification and profiling of likely audiences, including multicultural and international audiences and gauging the effectiveness of potential audience reach by recommending a carefully planned program of pre- and post-evaluation;
- Identification of and dialogue with key stakeholders in the community, including educational institutions and the cultural tourism industry;
- Identification of appropriate communication themes and education opportunities for the development of interpretive stories and syllabus connections that ensure conservation and sustainability of the cultural heritage and encourage understanding of the history and use of the subject site. The place and its significance are multi-faceted, embracing many historical themes;
- Identification of appropriate messages that reflect the vision for the place and communicate interpretive themes in ways that will engage audiences, be thought-provoking and that will stimulate further enquiry;
- Linkage of messages to audiences and locations;
- Identification and development of linkages to the New South Wales school curriculum, including potential for teaching subjects as diverse as social studies, art, history and geography in ways that will promote interest in, and informed and responsible attitudes towards people, cultures, societies, environments and learning, with a commitment to:
 - Social justice
 - Intercultural understanding
 - Ecological sustainability
 - Democratic processes
 - Beliefs and moral codes
 - Lifelong learning
- Identification and review of existing interpretive material available through Council and other sources.
- Identification of strategies, specific locations and methods for site interpretation which might include, but not be limited to the following:
 - Signage in general;
 - Specific signage opportunities;
 - Printed and web-based publications;

- Portable electronic media (e.g. use of smart phones and QR codes via downloadable applications);
- Planting;
- Hard landscaping;
- Promotion;
- Merchandising;
- Education programs (schools and public);
- Community involvement;
- Visits;
- Exhibitions and displays (both on-site and at external venues);
- Local festivals (e.g. National Trust Heritage Festival, History Week, NAIDOC Week);

The Plan will make recommendations for interpretive media that communicate effectively without compromising site significance, for elements such as:

- Signs;
- Plantings;
- Maps;
- Art / Sculpture Elements;
- Panels or text set into pathways;
- Panels or text set into site furniture or walls;
- Interpretive display in a retained building;
- Guided tours;
- Self-guiding brochures, leaflets;
- Other publications, both printed and web-based;
- Interactive opportunities for visitors to interrogate archive database and / or oral histories of former employees;
- Audio guides / portable electronic media.

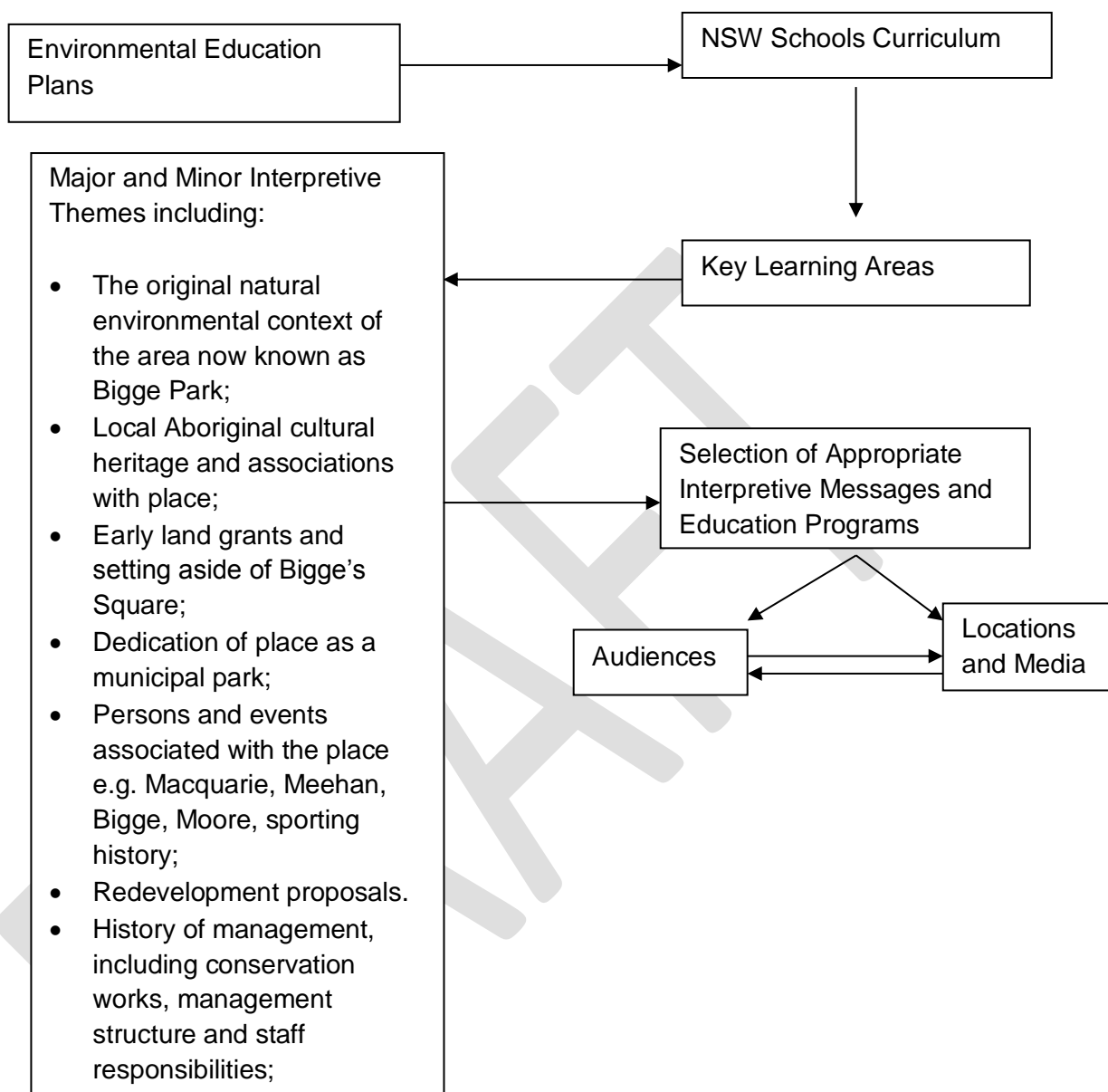
The Plan will include provision for pre- and post-evaluation and review.



Figure 59 Three examples of interpretive signs in and near Bigge Park. The signs at left and centre include an historic photograph with explanatory text while the sign at right includes way-finding information with an historic image. (Photos: Chris Betteridge, 2014)

9.3 A suggested framework

A suggested framework for the Interpretation Plan for Bigge Park is summarised in the diagram below.



10.0 This CMP and the new Landscape Masterplan

It is often preferable for heritage items to retain their original intended use and to continue functioning in the manner for which they were designed. Where the former use(s) cannot be perpetuated due to changed circumstances, a range of sympathetic, new, alternative uses should be considered to create a viable new setting in which the retained heritage item(s) can be conserved, enjoyed and understood by future generations. A change of use can have the advantage that some of the site's heritage elements, currently hidden from public view, will be available for inspection and interpretation.

In any proposed developments in Bigge Park it is essential that any new built elements respect the heritage values of the place by not over-powering them. This can be achieved by retaining identified significant elements and designing new structures in ways that enable the retained elements still to be 'read' in the landscape, with adjoining structures of sympathetic siting and design. Adequate open space needs to be maintained to retain significance and satisfy community needs and Council requirements and to provide interesting further opportunities for celebration and interpretation of the site's former use.

In December 2013, Urbis with LAVA and WAX were commissioned by Liverpool City Council to develop an urban design concept for the Bigge Park Precinct as part of the Liverpool City Centre Revitalisation project, a long term development programme for the City. The resultant concept design includes the following strategies:

- Reclaim the historic park boundaries
- Celebrate the local heritage
- Respond to the park role as a major civic place
- Provide an opportunity for a range of activities and events including, cultural, recreational, social/leisure and environmental activities.

At the time of completion of the draft of this CMP, Urbis had 90% completed the Final Draft Landscape Design Development Package for Bigge Park. The major aspects of this package are:

- Removal of bowling greens;
- Removal of music shell;
- Retention of tennis courts and courtside café;
- Construction of a circular path around the park to interpret the location of the boundary of the 1940s playing field;
- Replacement of existing paving materials with more suitable, more uniform materials to produce a more cohesive palette of hard finishes and to remove existing visual impacts and trip hazards posed by damaged paving;
- Relocation of some memorials to nodes around the new circular path, with seating and lighting;
- Conversion of the former dressing shed / pump house to a café;

- Improved edge treatments to define the park boundaries better, enhancing the visual perception of the park as part of the Macquarie / Meehan grid pattern for Liverpool;
- New landscaping to the eastern side of the park to enhance the significant historic visual link between the park and the former Liverpool Hospital / Asylum;
- Relocation of restored Cook Obelisk from Discovery Park to an appropriate location in Bigge Park.

11.0 Implementation of this CMP

11.1 *General comments*

The policies and guidelines in this CMP need to be implemented in accordance with priorities based on a range of factors including but not limited to the following:

- Relative significance of elements;
- availability of funds in Council's approved budget;
- availability of suitable management resources e.g. appropriate qualifications or experience;
- anticipated community trends;
- availability of funds from other sources e.g. heritage grants or loans;
- existing threats to significant elements e.g. structural instability, deteriorating fabric;
- environmental disasters e.g. building fire, storm damage;
- vandalism.

11.2 *Timing of actions*

Actions for implementation of conservation policies in the CMP are categorised as follows:

- **Short term:** These include urgent conservation and maintenance actions that should be undertaken within 12 months and actions which are less urgent but are required within 2 years for heritage conservation and / or amenity improvements.
- **Medium term:** These include actions to be implemented in a 2 to 4 year timeframe. Forward planning to secure resources would enable implementation of these actions within the medium term timeframe. Development of the Interpretation Strategy in the CMP into a detailed Interpretation Plan for Bigge Park should be carried out within this timeframe.
- **Long term:** These are actions to be implemented after 4 years or within a 5-10 year time frame and may involve items of lower priority or larger proposals or actions to be included in future masterplans. As with medium term actions, forward planning to secure resources can increase the possibility of implementation. For a place such as Bigge Park, with strong historical associations to important individuals and events, it is important for Council to

identify significant future anniversaries which may receive Federal or State funding for conservation works and or celebratory events.

Additional timing parameters include ongoing, commenced and completed.

11.3 Program for implementation of policies

Adherence to general conservation philosophy and principles

Conservation policies	Conservation actions	Implementation Timing
0.1 to 0.13 and 1.1 to 1.6	Manage in accordance with Burra Charter principles and Heritage Act and EPA Act requirements	Always and ongoing

Interpretation of Bigge Park

Conservation policies	Conservation actions	Implementation Timing
2.1 to 2.10	Develop an Interpretation Plan from the Interpretation Strategy in the CMP	Mid-term: 2 to 4 years

Use of significant spaces, features and fabric

Conservation policies	Conservation actions	Implementation Timing
3.1 to 3.4	Maintain existing use of Bigge Park as public open space with some areas dedicated for specific community use or sectional sporting interest.	Ongoing
	Determine appropriate sympathetic uses for parts of park no longer viable for previous use in accordance with CMP and Landscape masterplan	Short term: within 24 months

Public access and safety

Conservation policies	Conservation actions	Implementation Timing
4.1 to 4.4	Prepare access plan and fire and life strategies for Bigge Park in conformity with CMP and Landscape Masterplan	Short term: within 24 months

Conservation of significant features, spaces and fabric

Conservation policies	Conservation actions	Implementation Timing
5.1 to 5.5	Conserve in accordance with management recommendations appropriate for assessed significance levels	Ongoing

Intervention in the fabric

Conservation policies	Conservation actions	Implementation Timing
6.1 to 6.7	Carry out any works including alteration or demolition of elements of little significance or intrusive elements with extreme care and archivally record all changes	Ongoing

Alterations and additions to significant fabric and spaces

Conservation policies	Conservation actions	Implementation Timing
7.1 to 7.6	Do as much as is necessary but as little as possible to significant fabric and spaces. Use current best practice and appropriately skilled and experienced personnel	Ongoing

Detailed policies on conservation of significant fabric

Conservation policies	Conservation actions	Implementation Timing
8.1 to 8.12	Follow detailed policy guidelines in the CMP	Ongoing

Archaeology

Conservation policies	Conservation actions	Implementation Timing
9.1 to 9.3	Follow archaeological requirements under relevant legislation	Ongoing

Compliance with building regulations

Conservation policies	Conservation actions	Implementation Timing
10.1 to 10.3	Comply with building regulations for access and fire safety while at the same time retaining heritage values	Ongoing

Installation of services Conservation policies 11.1 to 11.6	Conservation actions Install any required services in accordance with policies in CMP	Implementation Timing Ongoing
Maintenance and repair Conservation policies 12.1 to 12.6	Conservation actions Develop a proactive planned maintenance and repair program for Bigge Park	Implementation Timing Short term: 24 months
Maintaining Bigge Park as Conservation policies 13.1	public open space Conservation actions Retain current boundaries as the curtilage for the park and maintain significant visual and physical links between the various built and landscape elements on site and in the vicinity	Implementation Timing Ongoing
Conservation of significant Conservation policies 14.1 to 14.3	views and vistas Conservation actions Conserve and enhance significant views to, from and within the park	Implementation Timing Ongoing
'Good housekeeping' Conservation policies 15.1 to 15.2	Conservation actions Maintain site in tidy condition generally and ensure no damage arises during conservation or other works	Implementation Timing Ongoing

Landscape conservation**Conservation policies**

16.1 to 16.9

Conservation actions

Conform to current best practice in amenity horticulture. Control weeds and feral animals in accordance with approved methods. Ensure new plantings are fit for purpose and enhance heritage values of park. Prepare a succession planting plan for staged replacement of significant trees and shrubs before they become senescent, dangerous or die

Implementation Timing

Ongoing

Medium term: 2-4 years

Need for a Landscape Master Plan**Conservation policies**

17.1

Conservation actions

Commission a Landscape Masterplan.
Implement Landscape Masterplan.

Implementation Timing

At final draft stage

February 2015.

Stage 1: Short term: 12 to 24 months.

Further stages: Medium term: 2 to 4 years

Protection of setting & control of development of adjoining lands**Conservation policies**

18.1 to 18.3

Conservation actions

Liaise with adjoining landowners to ensure any new developments are sympathetic to park's heritage values and monitor developments

Implementation Timing

Ongoing

Amendment to LEP listing**Conservation policies**

19.1 to 19.2

Conservation actions

Amend Bigge Park listing on SHI database further to the additional research carried out for this CMP. Nominate Bigge Park for listing on SHR

Implementation Timing

Short term: within 12 months

Preparation of Heritage Impact Statements

Conservation policies	Conservation actions	Implementation Timing
20.1	Prepare Heritage Impact Statements prior to any major new developments in Bigge Park	As necessary

Endorsement and dissemination of this CMP

Conservation policies	Conservation actions	Implementation Timing
21.1 to 21,3	Endorse CMP for public exhibition. Nominate Bigge Park for SHR listing. Lodge copies of this CMP with relevant bodies as identified in the CMP	Short term

Archival recording

Conservation policies	Conservation actions	Implementation Timing
22.1	Undertake archival recording prior to any major changes to Bigge Park.	Ongoing and as necessary

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12.2 Maps

Plan of the Township of Liverpool 1819 SAONSW A0 Map SZ293

R Hoddle Plan of the Town of Liverpool 1827 SAONSW Map 3839

Plan of the Boundaries of Liverpool 1856? SAONSW A0 Map 3371

Plan of the Town Allotments of Liverpool 1856? ML M2 811.1345/1856?/1

Alignment Plan of Streets in the Town of Liverpool 1877 LD L1/2163

Plan of the Town of Liverpool 1898 SAONSW A0 Map 995

12.3 Newspaper articles

These are included as footnotes throughout the CMP.

13.0 Appendices

13.1 Burra Charter

13.2 State Heritage Inventory database entry

13.3 Assessment of the likely impacts and appropriateness of proposed planting schemes on the heritage values, elements and vistas of Bigge Park, Liverpool

DRAFT

THE BURRA CHARTER

The Australia ICOMOS Charter for
Places of Cultural Significance 2013



Australia ICOMOS Incorporated
International Council on Monuments and Sites

ICOMOS

ICOMOS (International Council on Monuments and Sites) is a non-governmental professional organisation formed in 1965, with headquarters in Paris. ICOMOS is primarily concerned with the philosophy, terminology, methodology and techniques of cultural heritage conservation. It is closely linked to UNESCO, particularly in its role under the World Heritage Convention 1972 as UNESCO's principal adviser on cultural matters related to World Heritage. The 11,000 members of ICOMOS include architects, town planners, demographers, archaeologists, geographers, historians, conservators, anthropologists, scientists, engineers and heritage administrators. Members in the 103 countries belonging to ICOMOS are formed into National Committees and participate in a range of conservation projects, research work, intercultural exchanges and cooperative activities. ICOMOS also has 27 International Scientific Committees that focus on particular aspects of the conservation field. ICOMOS members meet triennially in a General Assembly.

Australia ICOMOS

The Australian National Committee of ICOMOS (Australia ICOMOS) was formed in 1976. It elects an Executive Committee of 15 members, which is responsible for carrying out national programs and participating in decisions of ICOMOS as an international organisation. It provides expert advice as required by ICOMOS, especially in its relationship with the World Heritage Committee. Australia ICOMOS acts as a national and international link between public authorities, institutions and individuals involved in the study and conservation of all places of cultural significance. Australia ICOMOS members participate in a range of conservation activities including site visits, training, conferences and meetings.

Revision of the Burra Charter

The Burra Charter was first adopted in 1979 at the historic South Australian mining town of Burra. Minor revisions were made in 1981 and 1988, with more substantial changes in 1999.

Following a review this version was adopted by Australia ICOMOS in October 2013.

The review process included replacement of the 1988 Guidelines to the Burra Charter with Practice Notes which are available at: australia.icomos.org

Australia ICOMOS documents are periodically reviewed and we welcome any comments.

Citing the Burra Charter

The full reference is *The Burra Charter: The Australia ICOMOS Charter for Places of Cultural Significance, 2013*. Initial textual references should be in the form of the *Australia ICOMOS Burra Charter, 2013* and later references in the short form (*Burra Charter*).

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The Burra Charter consists of the Preamble, Articles, Explanatory Notes and the flow chart.

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Cover photograph by Ian Stapleton.

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The Burra Charter

(The Australia ICOMOS Charter for Places of Cultural Significance, 2013)

Preamble

Considering the International Charter for the Conservation and Restoration of Monuments and Sites (Venice 1964), and the Resolutions of the 5th General Assembly of the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) (Moscow 1978), the Burra Charter was adopted by Australia ICOMOS (the Australian National Committee of ICOMOS) on 19 August 1979 at Burra, South Australia. Revisions were adopted on 23 February 1981, 23 April 1988, 26 November 1999 and 31 October 2013.

The Burra Charter provides guidance for the conservation and management of places of cultural significance (cultural heritage places), and is based on the knowledge and experience of Australia ICOMOS members.

Conservation is an integral part of the management of places of cultural significance and is an ongoing responsibility.

Who is the Charter for?

The Charter sets a standard of practice for those who provide advice, make decisions about, or undertake works to places of cultural significance, including owners, managers and custodians.

Using the Charter

The Charter should be read as a whole. Many articles are interdependent.

The Charter consists of:

- Definitions Article 1
- Conservation Principles Articles 2–13
- Conservation Processes Articles 14–25
- Conservation Practices Articles 26–34
- The Burra Charter Process flow chart.

The key concepts are included in the Conservation Principles section and these are further developed in the Conservation Processes and Conservation Practice sections. The flow chart explains the Burra Charter Process (Article 6) and is an integral part of

the Charter. Explanatory Notes also form part of the Charter.

The Charter is self-contained, but aspects of its use and application are further explained, in a series of Australia ICOMOS Practice Notes, in *The Illustrated Burra Charter*, and in other guiding documents available from the Australia ICOMOS web site: australia.icomos.org.

What places does the Charter apply to?

The Charter can be applied to all types of places of cultural significance including natural, Indigenous and historic places with cultural values.

The standards of other organisations may also be relevant. These include the *Australian Natural Heritage Charter*, *Ask First: a guide to respecting Indigenous heritage places and values* and *Significance 2.0: a guide to assessing the significance of collections*.

National and international charters and other doctrine may be relevant. See australia.icomos.org.

Why conserve?

Places of cultural significance enrich people's lives, often providing a deep and inspirational sense of connection to community and landscape, to the past and to lived experiences. They are historical records, that are important expressions of Australian identity and experience. Places of cultural significance reflect the diversity of our communities, telling us about who we are and the past that has formed us and the Australian landscape. They are irreplaceable and precious.

These places of cultural significance must be conserved for present and future generations in accordance with the principle of inter-generational equity.

The Burra Charter advocates a cautious approach to change: do as much as necessary to care for the place and to make it useable, but otherwise change it as little as possible so that its cultural significance is retained.

Articles

Article 1. Definitions

For the purposes of this Charter:

- 1.1 *Place* means a geographically defined area. It may include elements, objects, spaces and views. Place may have tangible and intangible dimensions.
- 1.2 *Cultural significance* means aesthetic, historic, scientific, social or spiritual value for past, present or future generations.

Cultural significance is embodied in the *place* itself, its *fabric*, *setting*, *use*, *associations*, *meanings*, *records*, *related places* and *related objects*.

Places may have a range of values for different individuals or groups.
- 1.3 *Fabric* means all the physical material of the *place* including elements, fixtures, contents and objects.
- 1.4 *Conservation* means all the processes of looking after a *place* so as to retain its *cultural significance*.
- 1.5 *Maintenance* means the continuous protective care of a *place*, and its *setting*.

Maintenance is to be distinguished from repair which involves *restoration* or *reconstruction*.
- 1.6 *Preservation* means maintaining a *place* in its existing state and retarding deterioration.
- 1.7 *Restoration* means returning a *place* to a known earlier state by removing accretions or by reassembling existing elements without the introduction of new material.
- 1.8 *Reconstruction* means returning a *place* to a known earlier state and is distinguished from *restoration* by the introduction of new material.
- 1.9 *Adaptation* means changing a *place* to suit the existing *use* or a proposed use.
- 1.10 *Use* means the functions of a *place*, including the activities and traditional and customary practices that may occur at the place or are dependent on the place.

Explanatory Notes

Place has a broad scope and includes natural and cultural features. Place can be large or small: for example, a memorial, a tree, an individual building or group of buildings, the location of an historical event, an urban area or town, a cultural landscape, a garden, an industrial plant, a shipwreck, a site with in situ remains, a stone arrangement, a road or travel route, a community meeting place, a site with spiritual or religious connections.

The term cultural significance is synonymous with cultural heritage significance and cultural heritage value.

Cultural significance may change over time and with use.

Understanding of cultural significance may change as a result of new information.

Fabric includes building interiors and sub-surface remains, as well as excavated material.

Natural elements of a place may also constitute fabric. For example the rocks that signify a Dreaming place.

Fabric may define spaces and views and these may be part of the significance of the place.

See also Article 14.

Examples of protective care include:

- maintenance – regular inspection and cleaning of a place, e.g. mowing and pruning in a garden;
- repair involving restoration – returning dislodged or relocated fabric to its original location e.g. loose roof gutters on a building or displaced rocks in a stone bora ring;
- repair involving reconstruction – replacing decayed fabric with new fabric

It is recognised that all places and their elements change over time at varying rates.

New material may include recycled material salvaged from other places. This should not be to the detriment of any place of cultural significance.

Use includes for example cultural practices commonly associated with Indigenous peoples such as ceremonies, hunting and fishing, and fulfillment of traditional obligations. Exercising a right of access may be a use.

Articles

- 1.11 *Compatible use* means a *use* which respects the *cultural significance* of a *place*. Such a use involves no, or minimal, impact on cultural significance.
- 1.12 *Setting* means the immediate and extended environment of a *place* that is part of or contributes to its *cultural significance* and distinctive character.
- 1.13 *Related place* means a *place* that contributes to the *cultural significance* of another place.
- 1.14 *Related object* means an object that contributes to the *cultural significance* of a *place* but is not at the place.
- 1.15 *Associations* mean the connections that exist between people and a *place*.
- 1.16 *Meanings* denote what a *place* signifies, indicates, evokes or expresses to people.
- 1.17 *Interpretation* means all the ways of presenting the *cultural significance* of a *place*.

Conservation Principles

Article 2. Conservation and management

- 2.1 *Places of cultural significance* should be conserved.
- 2.2 The aim of *conservation* is to retain the *cultural significance* of a *place*.
- 2.3 *Conservation* is an integral part of good management of *places of cultural significance*.
- 2.4 *Places of cultural significance* should be safeguarded and not put at risk or left in a vulnerable state.

Article 3. Cautious approach

- 3.1 *Conservation* is based on a respect for the existing *fabric, use, associations* and *meanings*. It requires a cautious approach of changing as much as necessary but as little as possible.
- 3.2 Changes to a *place* should not distort the physical or other evidence it provides, nor be based on conjecture.

Article 4. Knowledge, skills and techniques

- 4.1 *Conservation* should make use of all the knowledge, skills and disciplines which can contribute to the study and care of the *place*.

Explanatory Notes

Setting may include: structures, spaces, land, water and sky; the visual setting including views to and from the place, and along a cultural route; and other sensory aspects of the setting such as smells and sounds. Setting may also include historical and contemporary relationships, such as use and activities, social and spiritual practices, and relationships with other places, both tangible and intangible.

Objects at a place are encompassed by the definition of place, and may or may not contribute to its cultural significance.

Associations may include social or spiritual values and cultural responsibilities for a place.

Meanings generally relate to intangible dimensions such as symbolic qualities and memories.

Interpretation may be a combination of the treatment of the fabric (e.g. maintenance, restoration, reconstruction); the use of and activities at the place; and the use of introduced explanatory material.

The traces of additions, alterations and earlier treatments to the fabric of a place are evidence of its history and uses which may be part of its significance. Conservation action should assist and not impede their understanding.

Articles

4.2 Traditional techniques and materials are preferred for the *conservation* of significant *fabric*. In some circumstances modern techniques and materials which offer substantial conservation benefits may be appropriate.

Article 5. Values

5.1 *Conservation* of a *place* should identify and take into consideration all aspects of cultural and natural significance without unwarranted emphasis on any one value at the expense of others.

5.2 Relative degrees of *cultural significance* may lead to different *conservation* actions at a place.

Article 6. Burra Charter Process

6.1 The *cultural significance* of a *place* and other issues affecting its future are best understood by a sequence of collecting and analysing information before making decisions. Understanding cultural significance comes first, then development of policy and finally management of the place in accordance with the policy. This is the Burra Charter Process.

6.2 Policy for managing a *place* must be based on an understanding of its *cultural significance*.

6.3 Policy development should also include consideration of other factors affecting the future of a *place* such as the owner's needs, resources, external constraints and its physical condition.

6.4 In developing an effective policy, different ways to retain *cultural significance* and address other factors may need to be explored.

6.5 Changes in circumstances, or new information or perspectives, may require reiteration of part or all of the Burra Charter Process.

Article 7. Use

7.1 Where the *use* of a *place* is of *cultural significance* it should be retained.

7.2 A *place* should have a *compatible use*.

Explanatory Notes

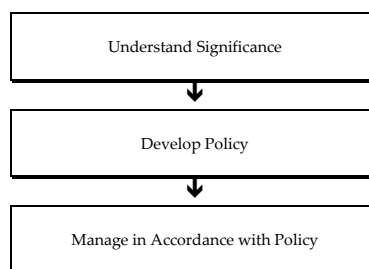
The use of modern materials and techniques must be supported by firm scientific evidence or by a body of experience.

Conservation of places with natural significance is explained in the Australian Natural Heritage Charter. This Charter defines natural significance to mean the importance of ecosystems, biodiversity and geodiversity for their existence value or for present or future generations, in terms of their scientific, social, aesthetic and life-support value.

In some cultures, natural and cultural values are indivisible.

A cautious approach is needed, as understanding of cultural significance may change. This article should not be used to justify actions which do not retain cultural significance.

The Burra Charter Process, or sequence of investigations, decisions and actions, is illustrated below and in more detail in the accompanying flow chart which forms part of the Charter.



Options considered may include a range of uses and changes (e.g. adaptation) to a place.

The policy should identify a use or combination of uses or constraints on uses that retain the cultural significance of the place. New use of a place should involve minimal change to significant fabric and use; should respect associations and meanings; and where appropriate should provide for continuation of activities and practices which contribute to the cultural significance of the place.

Articles

Article 8. Setting

Conservation requires the retention of an appropriate *setting*. This includes retention of the visual and sensory setting, as well as the retention of spiritual and other cultural relationships that contribute to the *cultural significance* of the *place*.

New construction, demolition, intrusions or other changes which would adversely affect the setting or relationships are not appropriate.

Article 9. Location

- 9.1 The physical location of a *place* is part of its *cultural significance*. A building, work or other element of a place should remain in its historical location. Relocation is generally unacceptable unless this is the sole practical means of ensuring its survival.
- 9.2 Some buildings, works or other elements of *places* were designed to be readily removable or already have a history of relocation. Provided such buildings, works or other elements do not have significant links with their present location, removal may be appropriate.
- 9.3 If any building, work or other element is moved, it should be moved to an appropriate location and given an appropriate *use*. Such action should not be to the detriment of any *place* of *cultural significance*.

Article 10. Contents

Contents, fixtures and objects which contribute to the *cultural significance* of a *place* should be retained at that place. Their removal is unacceptable unless it is: the sole means of ensuring their security and *preservation*; on a temporary basis for treatment or exhibition; for cultural reasons; for health and safety; or to protect the place. Such contents, fixtures and objects should be returned where circumstances permit and it is culturally appropriate.

Article 11. Related places and objects

The contribution which *related places* and *related objects* make to the *cultural significance* of the *place* should be retained.

Article 12. Participation

Conservation, *interpretation* and management of a *place* should provide for the participation of people for whom the place has significant *associations* and *meanings*, or who have social, spiritual or other cultural responsibilities for the place.

Article 13. Co-existence of cultural values

Co-existence of cultural values should always be recognised, respected and encouraged. This is especially important in cases where they conflict.

Explanatory Notes

Setting is explained in Article 1.12.

For example, the repatriation (returning) of an object or element to a place may be important to Indigenous cultures, and may be essential to the retention of its cultural significance.

Article 28 covers the circumstances where significant fabric might be disturbed, for example, during archaeological excavation.

Article 33 deals with significant fabric that has been removed from a place.

For some places, conflicting cultural values may affect policy development and management decisions. In Article 13, the term cultural values refers to those beliefs which are important to a cultural group, including but not limited to political, religious, spiritual and moral beliefs. This is broader than values associated with cultural significance.

Conservation Processes

Article 14. Conservation processes

Conservation may, according to circumstance, include the processes of: retention or reintroduction of a *use*; retention of *associations* and *meanings*; *maintenance*, *preservation*, *restoration*, *reconstruction*, *adaptation* and *interpretation*; and will commonly include a combination of more than one of these. Conservation may also include retention of the contribution that *related places* and *related objects* make to the *cultural significance* of a *place*.

Article 15. Change

15.1 Change may be necessary to retain *cultural significance*, but is undesirable where it reduces cultural significance. The amount of change to a *place* and its *use* should be guided by the *cultural significance* of the place and its appropriate *interpretation*.

15.2 Changes which reduce *cultural significance* should be reversible, and be reversed when circumstances permit.

15.3 Demolition of significant *fabric* of a *place* is generally not acceptable. However, in some cases minor demolition may be appropriate as part of *conservation*. Removed significant fabric should be reinstated when circumstances permit.

15.4 The contributions of all aspects of *cultural significance* of a *place* should be respected. If a place includes *fabric*, *uses*, *associations* or *meanings* of different periods, or different aspects of cultural significance, emphasising or interpreting one period or aspect at the expense of another can only be justified when what is left out, removed or diminished is of slight cultural significance and that which is emphasised or interpreted is of much greater cultural significance.

Article 16. Maintenance

Maintenance is fundamental to *conservation*. Maintenance should be undertaken where *fabric* is of *cultural significance* and its maintenance is necessary to retain that *cultural significance*.

Article 17. Preservation

Preservation is appropriate where the existing *fabric* or its condition constitutes evidence of *cultural significance*, or where insufficient evidence is available to allow other *conservation* processes to be carried out.

Conservation normally seeks to slow deterioration unless the significance of the place dictates otherwise. There may be circumstances where no action is required to achieve conservation.

When change is being considered, including for a temporary use, a range of options should be explored to seek the option which minimises any reduction to its cultural significance.

It may be appropriate to change a place where this reflects a change in cultural meanings or practices at the place, but the significance of the place should always be respected.

Reversible changes should be considered temporary. Non-reversible change should only be used as a last resort and should not prevent future conservation action.

Maintaining a place may be important to the fulfilment of traditional laws and customs in some Indigenous communities and other cultural groups.

Preservation protects fabric without obscuring evidence of its construction and use. The process should always be applied:

- where the evidence of the fabric is of such significance that it should not be altered; or
- where insufficient investigation has been carried out to permit policy decisions to be taken in accord with Articles 26 to 28.

New work (e.g. stabilisation) may be carried out in association with preservation when its purpose is the physical protection of the fabric and when it is consistent with Article 22.

Articles

Article 18. Restoration and reconstruction

Restoration and *reconstruction* should reveal culturally significant aspects of the *place*.

Article 19. Restoration

Restoration is appropriate only if there is sufficient evidence of an earlier state of the *fabric*.

Article 20. Reconstruction

20.1 *Reconstruction* is appropriate only where a *place* is incomplete through damage or alteration, and only where there is sufficient evidence to reproduce an earlier state of the *fabric*. In some cases, reconstruction may also be appropriate as part of a *use* or practice that retains the *cultural significance* of the place.

20.2 *Reconstruction* should be identifiable on close inspection or through additional *interpretation*.

Article 21. Adaptation

21.1 *Adaptation* is acceptable only where the adaptation has minimal impact on the *cultural significance* of the *place*.

21.2 *Adaptation* should involve minimal change to significant *fabric*, achieved only after considering alternatives.

Article 22. New work

22.1 New work such as additions or other changes to the *place* may be acceptable where it respects and does not distort or obscure the *cultural significance* of the place, or detract from its *interpretation* and appreciation.

22.2 New work should be readily identifiable as such, but must respect and have minimal impact on the *cultural significance* of the *place*.

Article 23. Retaining or reintroducing use

Retaining, modifying or reintroducing a significant *use* may be appropriate and preferred forms of *conservation*.

Article 24. Retaining associations and meanings

24.1 Significant *associations* between people and a *place* should be respected, retained and not obscured. Opportunities for the *interpretation*, commemoration and celebration of these associations should be investigated and implemented.

24.2 Significant *meanings*, including spiritual values, of a *place* should be respected. Opportunities for the continuation or revival of these meanings should be investigated and implemented.

Explanatory Notes

Places with social or spiritual value may warrant reconstruction, even though very little may remain (e.g. only building footings or tree stumps following fire, flood or storm). The requirement for sufficient evidence to reproduce an earlier state still applies.

Adaptation may involve additions to the place, the introduction of new services, or a new use, or changes to safeguard the place. Adaptation of a place for a new use is often referred to as 'adaptive re-use' and should be consistent with Article 7.2.

New work should respect the significance of a place through consideration of its siting, bulk, form, scale, character, colour, texture and material. Imitation should generally be avoided.

New work should be consistent with Articles 3, 5, 8, 15, 21 and 22.1.

These may require changes to significant fabric but they should be minimised. In some cases, continuing a significant use, activity or practice may involve substantial new work.

For many places associations will be linked to aspects of use, including activities and practices.

Some associations and meanings may not be apparent and will require research.

Articles

Article 25. Interpretation

The *cultural significance* of many *places* is not readily apparent, and should be explained by *interpretation*. Interpretation should enhance understanding and engagement, and be culturally appropriate.

Conservation Practice

Article 26. Applying the Burra Charter Process

- 26.1 Work on a *place* should be preceded by studies to understand the place which should include analysis of physical, documentary, oral and other evidence, drawing on appropriate knowledge, skills and disciplines.
- 26.2 Written statements of *cultural significance* and policy for the *place* should be prepared, justified and accompanied by supporting evidence. The statements of significance and policy should be incorporated into a management plan for the place.
- 26.3 Groups and individuals with *associations* with the *place* as well as those involved in its management should be provided with opportunities to contribute to and participate in identifying and understanding the *cultural significance* of the place. Where appropriate they should also have opportunities to participate in its *conservation* and management.
- 26.4 Statements of *cultural significance* and policy for the *place* should be periodically reviewed, and actions and their consequences monitored to ensure continuing appropriateness and effectiveness.

Article 27. Managing change

- 27.1 The impact of proposed changes, including incremental changes, on the *cultural significance* of a *place* should be assessed with reference to the statement of significance and the policy for managing the place. It may be necessary to modify proposed changes to better retain cultural significance.
- 27.2 Existing *fabric*, *use*, *associations* and *meanings* should be adequately recorded before and after any changes are made to the *place*.

Article 28. Disturbance of fabric

- 28.1 Disturbance of significant *fabric* for study, or to obtain evidence, should be minimised. Study of a *place* by any disturbance of the fabric, including archaeological excavation, should only be undertaken to provide data essential for decisions on the *conservation* of the place, or to obtain important evidence about to be lost or made inaccessible.

Explanatory Notes

In some circumstances any form of interpretation may be culturally inappropriate.

The results of studies should be kept up to date, regularly reviewed and revised as necessary.

Policy should address all relevant issues, e.g. use, interpretation, management and change.

A management plan is a useful document for recording the Burra Charter Process, i.e. the steps in planning for and managing a place of cultural significance (Article 6.1 and flow chart). Such plans are often called conservation management plans and sometimes have other names.

The management plan may deal with other matters related to the management of the place.

Monitor actions taken in case there are also unintended consequences.

Articles

28.2 Investigation of a *place* which requires disturbance of the *fabric*, apart from that necessary to make decisions, may be appropriate provided that it is consistent with the policy for the place. Such investigation should be based on important research questions which have potential to substantially add to knowledge, which cannot be answered in other ways and which minimises disturbance of significant fabric.

Article 29. Responsibility

The organisations and individuals responsible for management and decisions should be named and specific responsibility taken for each decision.

Article 30. Direction, supervision and implementation

Competent direction and supervision should be maintained at all stages, and any changes should be implemented by people with appropriate knowledge and skills.

Article 31. Keeping a log

New evidence may come to light while implementing policy or a plan for a *place*. Other factors may arise and require new decisions. A log of new evidence and additional decisions should be kept.

Article 32. Records

32.1 The records associated with the *conservation* of a *place* should be placed in a permanent archive and made publicly available, subject to requirements of security and privacy, and where this is culturally appropriate.

32.2 Records about the history of a *place* should be protected and made publicly available, subject to requirements of security and privacy, and where this is culturally appropriate.

Article 33. Removed fabric

Significant *fabric* which has been removed from a *place* including contents, fixtures and objects, should be catalogued, and protected in accordance with its *cultural significance*.

Where possible and culturally appropriate, removed significant fabric including contents, fixtures and objects, should be kept at the place.

Article 34. Resources

Adequate resources should be provided for *conservation*.

Words in italics are defined in Article 1.

Explanatory Notes

New decisions should respect and have minimal impact on the cultural significance of the place.

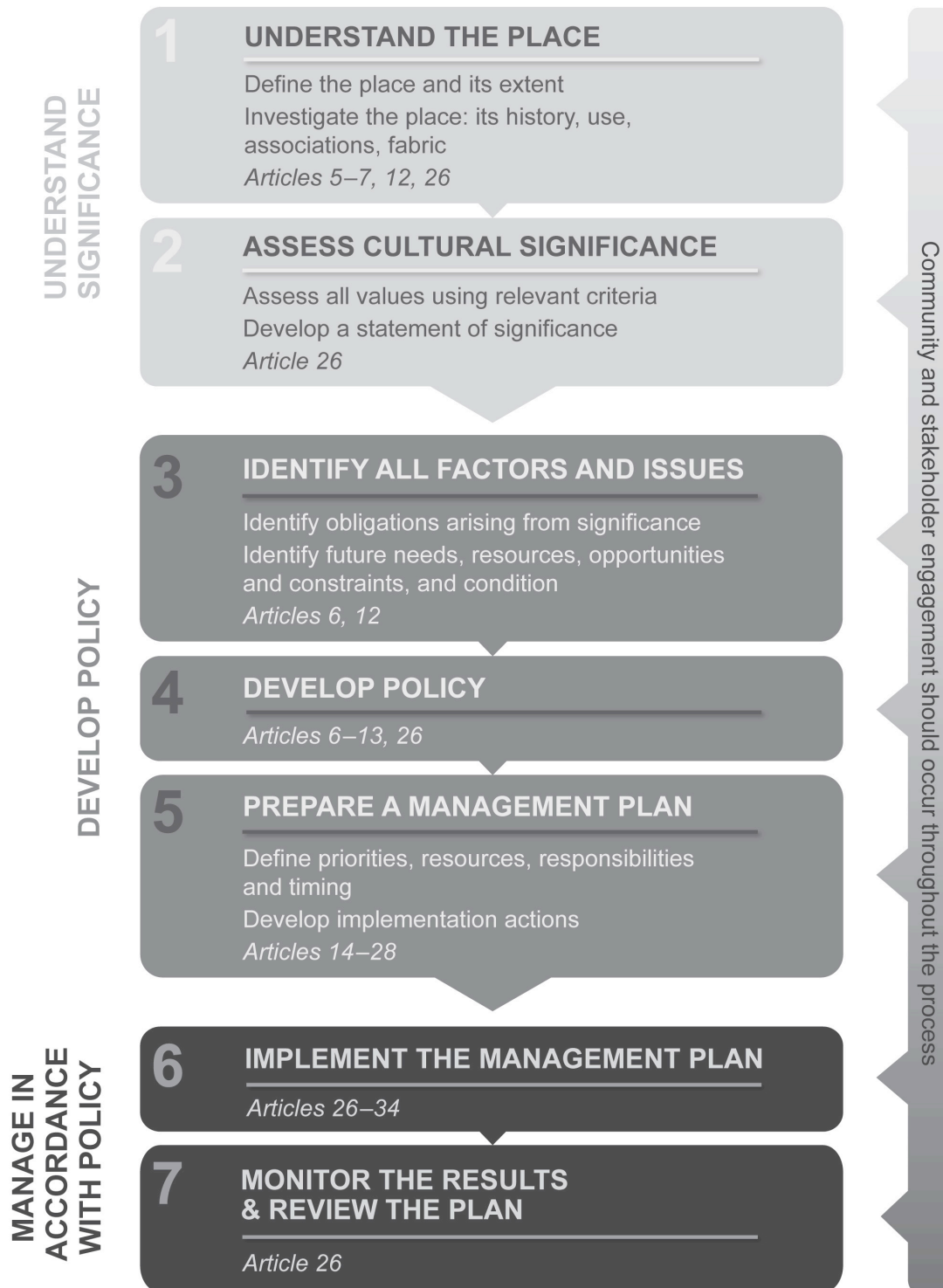
The best conservation often involves the least work and can be inexpensive.

The Burra Charter Process

Steps in planning for and managing a place of cultural significance

The Burra Charter should be read as a whole.

Key articles relevant to each step are shown in the boxes. Article 6 summarises the Burra Charter Process.



Bigge Park

Item details

Name of item: Bigge Park

Other name/s: Bigge Square

Type of item: Landscape

Group/Collection: Parks, Gardens and Trees

Category: Urban Park

Primary address: Bound by Moore, Elizabeth, Bigge and College Streets, Liverpool, NSW 2170

Local govt. area: Liverpool

Property description

Lot/Volume Code	Lot/Volume Number	Section Number	Plan/Folio Code	Plan/Folio Number
SECTION		49		

All addresses

Street Address	Suburb/town	LGA	Parish	County	Type
Bound by Moore, Elizabeth, Bigge and College Streets	Liverpool	Liverpool			Primary Address
Elizabeth Street	Liverpool	Liverpool			Alternate Address
College Street	Liverpool	Liverpool			Alternate Address
Bigge Street	Liverpool	Liverpool			Alternate Address

Statement of significance:

Bigge Park, as part of the original early 19th century commons for the Town of Liverpool, demonstrates the history of early urban planning and land use in the Colony. The establishment of a Town Common is particularly representative of Governor Macquarie's early urban plans in the Colony. As part of the original survey of Liverpool it demonstrates the history of the early settlement of the city and is a physical link to the character of the early township, enhanced by its location near a number of other historic sites in the city centre. It indicates a level of technical achievement in its original design by key Colonial figures Gr Macquarie and Surveyor Meehan. The Park is now a public, open, green space with attractive tree planting located in close proximity to a number of historic sites, it is aesthetically pleasing within the modern city centre. Its

continuity of use as a green open space is rare within Liverpool. There is the potential to gain more information on the group from further architectural, archaeological and documentary research.

Date significance updated: 25 Jul 04

Note: There are incomplete details for a number of items listed in NSW. The Heritage Branch intends to develop or upgrade statements of significance and other information for these items as resources become available.

Description

Physical description:

Bigge Park is bounded by Elizabeth, College, Moore and Bigge Street in Liverpool. Commercial premises, home units and the South Western Sydney Institute of TAFE take up the area surrounding the Park. The Park contains landscaped gardens, a War Memorial, bowling green and tennis courts.

The Park features border plantings of trees including Tallow wood (*Eucalyptus microcor*), Brush Box (*Lophostemon confertus*), Hill's Fig (*Ficus hillii*) and Red Ash (*Alphitonia excelsa*). The plantings along Bigge and Elizabeth Streets are particularly impressive. A variety of trees have been planted through the park in an informal layout. Included amongst these are trees planted to commemorate special events such as the Magnolia (*Magnolia grandiflora*) planted in 1982, the year of the Tree. The Park also contains a variety of garden beds planted with shrubs and annuals. A number of these are associated with monuments and contribute to the significance of these items. The *Photinia glabrens* ("Rubens") hedge bordering the children's play area in the south-western corner of the Park is an item of interest.

The Park also contains a number of structures and monuments. The entrance gates at the south western corner of the Park were erected in 1956 as a memorial to T.G.Scott, a councillor of the then Nepean Shire Council from 1906 to 1948. A plaque on the gates commemorates the opening of the Park in 1956 and the work of the Bigge Park Improvement Committee in overseeing works in the Park during the early 1950s.

Towards the southern end of the Park is the Liverpool District War Memorial. The Memorial incorporates an obelisk on which are the marble plaques from the former memorial in Memorial Avenue in Macquarie Street and a fountain in the form of a stone cairn surmounted by a cross in the centre of a pool. The feature is symbolic of a battlefield grave with the pool being a pool of remembrance. The pool border features plantings of *Lomandra longifolia*, a native plant rarely used in urban parks.

A clock tower in the centre of the Park was erected in 1955 by the Rotary Club of Liverpool to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of Rotary.

A music shell to the east of the Clock Tower is a memorial to a former Mayor Alex Grimson and was erected in 1974. An obelisk on the eastern side of the Park commemorates the founding of the township of

Liverpool on the 7th November 1810. This date is also significant for the Park as this was when the area was set aside as part of the town common. Nearby is a basalt rock with a plaque which was unveiled by the Governor of NSW then, Sir Roden Culter, on Liverpool Heritage Day, 7th November 1980.

A brick monument (used as a drinking water fountain) located to the north of the park was erected in 1956 in memory of Thomas Moore, a pioneer of the Liverpool district.

Physical condition and/or Archaeological potential:

The grounds and various monuments are well-maintained. The monument to Thomas Moore however is in poor condition.

Date condition updated: 25 Jul 04

Modifications and dates:

There has been various additions and modification to the Park since its establishment as an open green space in 1810.

Further information:

The 1992 Heritage Study recommended that commemorative plantings and the erection of new monuments in the Park be sympathetic with the character and appearance of the Park. Ad-hoc additions could lead to an unconnected series of plantings and monuments which would detract from the appearance of the Park.

It also recommended that the alienations at the southern end of the Park, which were unsympathetic with the character of the area, be integrated (including appropriate planting) into the rest of the Park.

Current use: Urban Parkland

Former use: Common land

History

Historical notes: Bigge Park has remained an open space since the foundation of the township of Liverpool in 1810 when it formed part of the town commons, known as Bigge Square. It was officially laid out by Governor Macquarie and surveyed by Meehan. The area east of what is now College Street was set aside as the site of the District Hospital (now the South Western Sydney Institute of TAFE). Bigge Square originally extended to Scott Street, but the area south of Moore Street was excised when the railway line was constructed in 1855-56.

It is apparent that the area remained undeveloped for some time. An 1880s photograph of the hospital shows the area as being grassed with no trees - at least on the eastern side (Matino 1983).

Much of the development of the Park took place in the mid 1950s under the auspices of the Bigge Park Improvement Committee sponsored by Liverpool City Council.

In 1996 Liverpool City Council commissioned a Heritage and Management Plan for both Bigge Park and Liverpool Pioneer's Memorial Park. The report outlines recommendations on the present and future management of both parks (see references).

Historic themes

Australian theme (abbrev)	New South Wales theme	Local theme
4. Settlement-Building settlements, towns and cities	Land tenure-Activities and processes for identifying forms of ownership and occupancy of land and water, both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal	Common land-
4. Settlement-Building settlements, towns and cities	Towns, suburbs and villages-Activities associated with creating, planning and managing urban functions, landscapes and lifestyles in towns, suburbs and villages	Early town plan by Governor Macquarie-
4. Settlement-Building settlements, towns and cities	Towns, suburbs and villages-Activities associated with creating, planning and managing urban functions, landscapes and lifestyles in towns, suburbs and villages	Beautifying towns and villages-
4. Settlement-Building settlements, towns and cities	Towns, suburbs and villages-Activities associated with creating, planning and managing urban functions, landscapes and lifestyles in towns, suburbs and villages	Landscaping in urban areas-
8. Culture-Developing cultural institutions and ways of life	Leisure-Activities associated with recreation and relaxation	Urban Parkland-
9. Phases of Life-Marking the phases of life	Persons-Activities of, and associations with, identifiable individuals, families and communal groups	Associations with Governor Lachlan Macquarie, 1810-1821-

Assessment of significance

- SHR Criteria a)** [Historical significance] The site, as part of the original commons for the Town of Liverpool, demonstrates the history of early urban planning and land use in the Colony. As part of Macquarie's original survey of Liverpool it demonstrates the history of the early settlement of the city and is a physical link to the character of the early township. This is enhanced by its location near a number of other historic sites in the city centre.
- SHR Criteria b)** [Associative significance] The site is associated with key Colonial figures such as Governor Macquarie and Surveyor Meehan.
- SHR Criteria c)** [Aesthetic significance] The site which forms part of Macquarie's original town layout for Liverpool, indicates a level of technical achievement in its design. The Park is now a public, open, green space with attractive tree planting along its north, east and west street boundaries. Located in close proximity to a number of historic sites, it is aesthetically pleasing within the modern city centre.
- SHR Criteria d)** [Social significance] The site has been an public, open, green space since the earliest origins of Liverpool. On display within the park are a number of monuments


and plantings of local importance that commemorate various events and individuals from the Liverpool community.

SHR Criteria e) [Research potential] There is the potential to gain more information on the group from further architectural, archaeological and documentary research.

SHR Criteria f) [Rarity] The site has been an public, open, green space since the earliest origins of Liverpool, this continuity of use is rare within the city.

SHR Criteria g) [Representativeness] The site, as part of the former early 19th century Liverpool Commons, is representative of land use in the early planning of urban centres in the Colony, particularly those compiled by Gr Macquarie. The site's present recreational use is representative of urban parklands throughout the State.

Integrity/Intactness: Intact

Assessment criteria: Items are assessed against the  [State Heritage Register \(SHR\) Criteria](#) to determine the level of significance. Refer to the Listings below for the level of statutory protection.

Recommended management:

A conservation management plan should be developed for this significant park to guide any future changes and the ongoing management of the park. The CMP should consider the significance of the cultural landscape as a whole, including the use of the park as a commons and its ongoing use as open space. The CMP should include a significance assessment of individual items within their setting and the significance of the cultural landscape.

Recommendations

Management Category	Description	Date Updated
Statutory Instrument	Nominate for State Heritage Register (SHR)	18 May 05
Recommended Management	Produce a Conservation Management Plan (CMP)	19 Jun 05

Listings

Heritage Listing	Listing Title	Listing Number	Gazette Date	Gazette Number	Gazette Page
Local Environmental Plan		0251	25 Mar 94	050	1330
Heritage study					

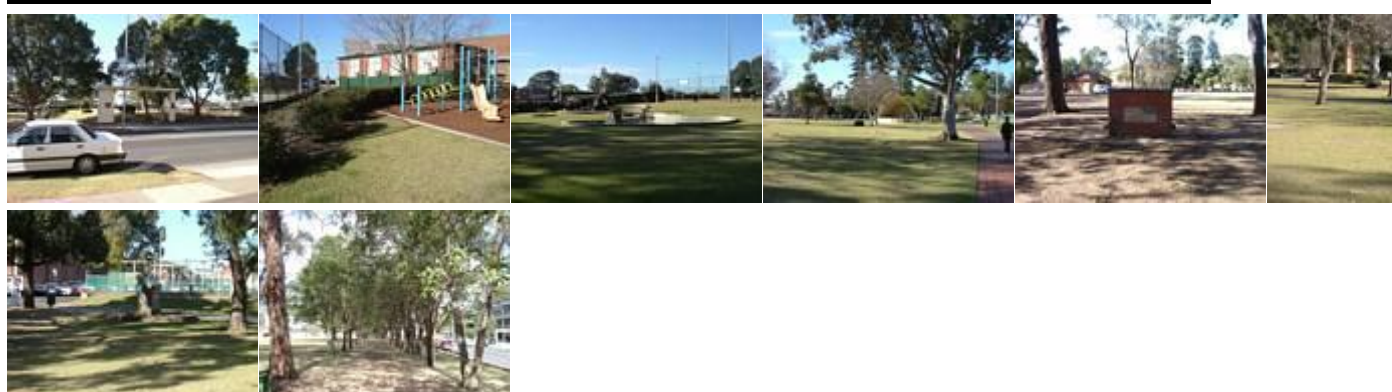
Study details

Title	Year	Number	Author	Inspected by	Guidelines used
National Trust Suburban Register	1986		National Trust of Australia (NSW)		No
Liverpool Heritage Study	1992	LP0114	Neustein & Associates		No
Liverpool Heritage Study Review	2004	1970025	FORM architects aust pty ltd	Cathy Fisher	Yes
Macarthur Region Heritage Study	1985		Not Known		No

References, internet links & images

Type	Author	Year	Title	Internet Links
Written				
Written			City Of Lvierpool Gazette 1980-81	
Written	M .Martino M. Matino	1983	"The Development of Liverpool and Campbelltown 1810-1890"	

Note: internet links may be to web pages, documents or images.



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Bigge Park



The entrance gates at the south western corner of the Park erected in 1956 as a memorial to T.G.Scott.

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Bigge Park



The Photinia glabrens (

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Bigge Park



Liverpool District War Memorial towards the southern end of the Park

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Bigge Park



The music shell to the east of the Park commemorates the founding of the township of Liverpool on the 7th November 1810

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Bigge Park



A brick monument located to the north of the park erected in 1956 in memory of Thomas Moore

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Bigge Park



An obelisk on the eastern side of the Park commemorating the founding of the township of Liverpool

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Bigge Park



Tree plantings along Bigge Street, looking north

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**ASSESSMENT OF THE LIKELY IMPACTS
AND APPROPRIATENESS
OF
PROPOSED PLANTING SCHEMES
ON THE
HERITAGE VALUES, ELEMENTS AND VISTAS
OF BIGGE PARK, LIVERPOOL**



Prepared for Iscape Landscape Architects and Liverpool Council

by

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Paddington NSW 2021

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Introduction

Liverpool City Council is planning to upgrade certain aspects of Bigge Park, located on the eastern edge of the CBD, and as it is a heritage-listed place, a Development Application is being prepared to obtain formal approval for implementation of the Landscape Master Plan adopted by Council. As part of the DA documentation, the applicant (Liverpool Council's Building and Open Space Construction Unit) is required to provide advice regarding the acceptability of the proposed schedule of plant material and proposed landscape planting schemes in terms of its foreseen impact on the heritage values of the Park.

The Landscape Architect, Ian Jackson, of Iscape Landscape Architecture, the firm which is implementing the Tender documentation, was asked to seek advice from a heritage landscape architect on the matters raised by Council's planners. Iscape Landscape Architecture accordingly invited Warwick Mayne-Wilson, Principal of Mayne-Wilson & Associates, Conservation Landscape Architects, to assess the planting proposals. This report has been prepared, at short notice, to meet that commission, but is not a fully fledged Heritage Impact Assessment and should not be regarded as such. In fact, a Heritage Impact Assessment report by others has already been commissioned and adopted by Council and submitted as part of the DA.

The report covers the following;

- A review of proposed plant materials for DA Drawings 174.12(11)309 and 174.12(11)104.
- Likely impact of the proposed trees around the clocktower square on views between the park and the Francis Greenway hospital, now the Liverpool TAFE college, built on the opposite side of College Street
- Suitability of the proposed plantings and whether some of the species chosen are appropriate in terms of style for them to be combined with the existing old plantings in the park.
- Recommendations of replacement of more suitable plant species for the proposed landscape works.

Historical Background

When Governor Macquarie selected a site for a town south of Sydney, close to the Georges River, he directed that it should contain "a large allotment of six acres in the centre of the town [which he named Liverpool] intended for a public market place and [venue] for annual fairs". Provision for the park was accordingly made in the town plan grid prepared by Surveyor James Meehan in late 1810. Various civic buildings, including a (second) hospital designed by Francis Greenway, the first school, the courthouse, and a commissariat were then built around it. (Similar town squares /market places were also provided for in plans for other Macquarie era towns such as at Richmond, Windsor, and Wilberforce, and later in Wollongong, Berrima, and St Marys.)

Like all these market places or town squares, the green sward was intended to be a focal point, a welcome counterpoint to the severe civic buildings and the bare streetscapes. Today, it provides an appropriate setting for several of these early buildings, some of major heritage significance.

Wendy Thorpe, the historian researching Liverpool City's history for EDAW's 1996 Heritage and Landscape Management Plan for both Bigge Park and Pioneer Park, states there was very little evidence that Bigge Park was much used either as a market place or for fairs. However, occasional

large community events were held there, such as the celebration of the Jubilee of Queen Victoria's reign in 1888, open air picture shows in 1909, and as headquarters for Lord Kitchener's staff during his visit to Australia in 1909 to advise on future Australian defence preparedness.

It was formally proclaimed as a park for public recreation in 1868, and the term 'recreation' appears to have triggered the park's growing use for active sports thereafter. Thorpe says it was used for cricket matches in summer and football in winter in the later 1800s. These sports required large open spaces, with only a few trees on the perimeter to provide shade for spectators. This helps explain why it remained nearly bare for so long. (Limited Council funds were another reason.)

Over the years, however, the grassed open space of Bigge Park was progressively whittled down. Some of its southern corner was excised when the railway line reached Liverpool in 1855 and a group of station buildings had to be erected there. The installation of the tennis courts in the 1920s along the southern boundary with Moore Street, together with the establishment of the Bowling Club in 1936, resulted in the excision of virtually a third of the park for active recreation. Membership of these clubs, however, meant that the area available to the general public for other forms of recreation was further limited.

The establishment of the Dr James Pirie Child Welfare Clinic (renamed the Baby Health Clinic) on the park's south-west corner (Bigge and Moore Streets) in the 1940s completed the building over of the southern sector of the park, with virtually no trees present.

Very little money was spent on the park for the first 120 years of its existence, and its share of the Unemployment Relief Fund of 1930 appears to have been small – apart from the provision of public toilets and perhaps a few trees. By the mid 1950s the park was so bare that a group called the Bigge Park Improvement Committee was set up to upgrade the Park, principally by the planting of trees. A researcher would need access to that Committee's Minutes (if they exist) to ascertain precisely which tree plantings were made, and in what years, but whenever it was, these tall native trees, now fully mature, have generated the principal character of the northern half of the park – see images below. They changed it from being a nearly bare, shadeless field into a bold, 'gutsy' style of park. In doing so, however, they effectively precluded active recreation in that sector for the future.



At the same time, the local Rotary Club wished to commemorate its 50th anniversary and decided to donate a clocktower near the centre of the park in 1955 in order to enhance it, and to provide a focal point. This soon prompted the installation of several memorials scattered around the park (which the

1996 EDAW report recommended should be organised into one coherent cluster). Some exotic trees were also planted, starting the process of ‘muddying’ the original plant palette of Brush Box, Tallowwoods, and She Oaks chosen by the Improvement Committee

The installation of the clocktower, numerous memorials, and the random, *ad hoc* planting of an extraordinary range of exotic trees and shrubs (many of them deciduous) to commemorate various persons or events, have collectively generated a fussy, cluttered appearance.



The south-eastern corner, adjacent to the Bowling Club, where a variety of smaller trees are located.



View looking toward the Bigge St entrance to the park, with the clocktower (arrowed) at far right.



The clocktower, with existing circular planting beds



View of how the music shell and plantings obscure the view to the TAFE College.



The only clear view to the TAFE College and its Araucaria Pines is directly from the end of the pathway on the northern side of the Bowling Club



The Kurrajongs, Swamp Mahogany and Angophora along the College street boundary also partly obscure these early colonial buildings

It is evident from the above images that these diverse types of actions during the 1950s precipitated two opposing styles, the bold native tree plantings fostering a strong, informal parkland character in the north and west, and a visually weak and semi-domesticated character on the southern sector.

Further confusing the scene is the pattern of pedestrian desire lines, which cross more or less diagonally through the northern half of the park. Landscape architects in recent years have sought to organise these into visual axes, focusing on the clocktower, the Francis Greenway/TAFE building (with its three Araucaria Pines), and the principal entrances to the park.

Analysis and foreseen heritage impacts

The following section attempts to analyse and assess the impact of past actions and present proposals on the heritage values and elements of the park, even though these have not yet been individually evaluated according to Heritage Office criteria.

Rationalising and improving the paving of the pedestrian desireline pathways is a sensible action, since these have no vertical – and hence view-blocking or diminution of open space potential.

It is recognised that the public may well want **some additional shade trees**, some with park bench seating beneath them, some in the sun, **within the eastern and central sector**. What is best suited to meet those needs are native trees with a single, clean trunk and an umbrella shaped canopy. Such trees will not block views beneath the canopy to important places such as the TAFE buildings and other 19th century structures, but will provide the needed shade. A palette of possible trees is attached as Appendix A.

Planting around the Clocktower, however, gives rise to different considerations. This is a 1950s cultural structure which should be matched with plantings that ‘go with’ that period and with the architectural style. It is a simple, bold vertical element, and the Japanese Box planting around its base is appropriate. This should be matched with other ornamental (but not native) shrub plantings that are of the same period palette. As a border edging plant to the Japanese box hedge, the Liriope is suitable enough. If other fairly low shrubs are desired as infill within the concentric circles around the tower, there are other possibilities. These are listed in Appendix B. Most would require periodic light pruning. All are hardy types, with low watering needs.

However, the **proposed planting of Japanese Crabapples** along the perimeter of the ‘square’ north-east of the clocktower may further clutter and diminish the historic open space character of the park. While they would provide a bright but short springtime show, they would be sufficiently low to screen views to the TAFE buildings from some parts of Bigge Street and the western sector of the park. As a fairly low, spreading, densely branched and leaved tree, they would also give little if any effective shade, and could provide temporary cover for thieves and other undesirables. Although this would not occur while they are bare for several months of the year, the tangle of their branches would still interrupt views to the TAFE buildings from the western sector of the park. Suggested replacement tree planting around the ‘square’ is provided in Appendix C

The proposed plantings of broad beds of **Lomandras and Dianellas along College Street** beneath the Kurrajong trees will help provide a more definitive edge to that side of the park. Being native shrubs, they relate in a general way to the Kurrajongs and the Eucalypts further north. The Kurrajongs are not doing particularly well yet (some with poor shapes), and generally the tree plantings along that edge are visually weak. Larger, bolder Eucalypts (selected from those suggested in Appendix A) would be visually more satisfying. However, great care has to be taken to avoid screening the view of

the early 19th century buildings across College Street, so any tree that does not have a straight, clean single trunk for at least 3 metres high would not be suitable. Even then, such trees should not be planted within 50m to the north of the entry gateways to the TAFE building.

Experience has shown, however, that after about 3 years, both Lomandras and Dianellas tend to collect every bit of rubbish blown around the park and street, and become raggedy or to clump. They can be pruned back rather severely, but in the longer term they are disappointing. Council should be prepared to replant these beds every three years, to ensure a continued good appearance.

It is suggested that rather than having a long, continuous row of them, the beds be broken up into 4-5 metre lengths, with a Kurrajong in the centre of each, and a metre or so of grass between the beds to allow pedestrians to enter the park from their cars parked in College Street.

The planting along the **park's boundary fence with the Bowling Club** needs to be of ornamental shrubs, since this is very much a hard, cultural edge, and the fence needs screening up to 2m high. It is also at the furthest distance from the tall native trees along Bigge St. and Elizabeth Street. The proposed Japanese Box hedge would not provide the necessary height, strength of colour and screening that is required. A bolder shrub such as Photinia, Viburnum or Raphiolepis is suggested – generally those with darker, richer green leaves are desirable. As the proposed Dianellas would in time suffer from the same problems as mentioned above, it would be preferable to have larger shrubs and fewer front row plants along the southern edge of this pathway. The *Liriope muscari* plantings would be suitable, as being exotics they would blend better with the exotic shrubs proposed above. (As a general rule, it is better not to mix exotics with native plants for aesthetic and management reasons.)

As for the proposed planting in the **sector leading westward to the Bigge Street entrance**, with the War Memorial to the south, the Japanese Box would be appropriate as visual integration is desirable between the pathway and the War Memorial.

Summary

The above analysis indicates that there have been three trends in the evolution of Bigge Park since the mid 1950s which have created a somewhat schizophrenic character. On the northern and western boundaries, the planting of large growing Eucalypts has created a strong visual, parkland character while leaving the centre as an open space. On the southern end, hard, built edges with very little planting have been allowed, creating a weak visual effect.

Overlying this is the imposition of a clocktower, near the centre of the remaining open space, which quickly attracted the addition of a series of other small monuments and commemorative plantings. The result is an *ad hoc* mish-mash of cultural plants and miscellaneous objects, with no thematic or stylistic consideration given to the ultimate effect. Complicating this, landscape architects have, at Council's request, sought to provide design order to the somewhat random earlier pedestrian pathway system, and to create a 'square' around the clocktower.

We are now at a crucial point where the proposed Crabapple plantings around the square would, if made, add an exotic element to the predominantly native plantings that give Bigge Park its distinctive character, reduce the original open space plan at the centre of the park, and interfere with views between it and important early 19th century buildings in the surrounding streets. Single, clean trunked small native trees as suggested in Appendix C would be more consistent and less intrusive visually.

As the EDAW report says, the park and its surrounding area provide an important visual reminder of the early character and buildings of Liverpool city centre. The 1950s planting scheme, which allowed continuance of the park's open character within at least its northern sector, successfully maintained the park's role as a centrally located and visible green space within the city precinct. It is that role which should continue to be maintained.