

ASHFIELD HERITAGE STUDY

1991-1992

NAME Ashfield Park		REFERENCE NO. 215
OTHER NAMES		REAL PROPERTY DESCRIPTION
LOCALITY / SUBURB Ashfield	POSTCODE 2131	ZONING 6(a)
STREET ADDRESS Parramatta Road, Orpington, Pembroke and Ormond Streets.		OWNER Ashfield Council
MAP	REFERENCE	BOUNDARY / IDENTIFICATION The Park boundary
PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS/HISTORICAL NOTES - SEE OVER		
CATEGORY	SUB CATEGORY	
EVALUATION OF SIGNIFICANCE		
Historic:	Rare <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Associative <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Representative <input type="checkbox"/>
Aesthetic:	Rare <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Associative <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Representative <input type="checkbox"/>
Social:	Rare <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Associative <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Representative <input type="checkbox"/>
Scientific:	Rare <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Associative <input type="checkbox"/> Representative <input type="checkbox"/>
Other:	Rare <input type="checkbox"/>	Associative <input type="checkbox"/> Representative <input type="checkbox"/>
STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE		SITE CONDITION
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Ashfield's oldest and largest public park. * Located on portion of James Underwood's Estate. * Notable formal layout and avenues. * Contains one of Sydney's finest avenues of Canary Island Date Palm. * Contains a number of significant structures. 		Intact <input type="checkbox"/> Minor Alteration <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Major Alteration <input type="checkbox"/> - Sympathetic <input type="checkbox"/> - Unsympathetic <input type="checkbox"/> Removed (site only) <input type="checkbox"/>



PHOTOGRAPHS	DATE OF SURVEY
BandW ROLL 91-052-4, 5, & 6	1/3/92
COLOUR SLIDES ROLL	SURVEYOR
STUDY TEAM: Richard Mackay, Robert Irving, Chris Pratten, Jill Sheppard, Stephen Harris	RI/CHP
NEG NO. 21	
FRAME NO.	

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HERITAGE LISTINGS <input type="checkbox"/> Register of the National Estate (AHC) - Registered <input type="checkbox"/> Register of the National Estate (AHC) - Interim <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Register of National Trust (NSW) <input type="checkbox"/> Within National Trust Conservation Area <input type="checkbox"/> Register of Significant Twentieth Century Architecture (RAIA) <input type="checkbox"/> Department of Public Works Heritage and Conservation Register <input type="checkbox"/> Heritage Council Register - Permanent Conservation Order <input type="checkbox"/> Heritage Council Register - Interim Conservation Order <input type="checkbox"/> Heritage Council Register - Section 130 Order <input type="checkbox"/> Heritage Council Register - Nomination <input type="checkbox"/> NSW Government Department Heritage Register (S170 Heritage Act) <input type="checkbox"/> Institution of Engineers (NSW) Heritage Register <input type="checkbox"/> Regional Environmental Plan Heritage Schedule <input type="checkbox"/> Local Environmental Plan Heritage Schedule <input type="checkbox"/> Other	PERIOD Pre - 1800 <input type="checkbox"/> 1800 - 1825 <input type="checkbox"/> 1825 - 1850 <input type="checkbox"/> 1851 - 1875 <input type="checkbox"/> 1876 - 1900 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1901 - 1925 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1926 - 1950 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1951 - 1975 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Post - 1975 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	REFERENCE NO. 215 <hr/> DATE OF CONSTRUCTION 1879 to present <hr/> ARCHITECT/DESIGNER Not known <hr/> BUILDER Not known
	HISTORICAL THEMES: State Themes: Democratic government A place to live Local Themes: Local Government and services	

HISTORICAL NOTES

Ashfield Park is located on part of James Underwood's Estate, first offered for auction on 9/6/1879. Just prior to the sale, the Mayor, Daniel Holborow, and other aldermen met with the Premier, Henry Parkes. As a result, Henry Moses, on behalf of the Government, purchased land for the park at the auction. The management of the park was initially vested in trustees, and later in Ashfield Council. The present formal layout of the park was commenced at a very early date, the basic plan being shown on the 1883 Higinbotham and Robinson Map of the Municipality of Ashfield. The bowling club was established in 1889. The park bandstand (demolished in the 1940s) was formerly the pavilion built on the shores of Farm Cove where Australia's first Governor General landed in December 1900.

INFORMATION SOURCES:

Written: ADHS Journal No. 6; National Trust Information Sheet.

Oral:

Graphic:

PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS:

Materials: The Park contains a number of different significant structures - a milestone (listed separately), park gates (formerly at Schuldham Hall), a 1921 War Memorial, a Federation Summer House, and two extremely interesting Art Deco drinking fountains installed in 1939. There is also a statue of Dr. Jose P. Rizal, national hero of the Philippines, unveiled in 1988.

Exterior:

Interior:

Styles

DESCRIPTION:

The park is essentially formal, with a series of straight paths flanked by avenues of Port Jackson Figs, Brush Box and Phoenix Palms, very early perimeter plantings of Araucaria are largely senescent. The park contains a number of fine individual specimen trees and palms, especially a River Red Gum, *Eucalyptus camaldulensis*, facing Ormond Street. Following the felling of an old Blackbutt in 1991, the only survivors of the natural vegetation originally growing on the site are a number of Turpentine, *syncarpia glomulifera*.

MODIFICATION:

The continued removal of old plantings and their random replacement with species of smaller scale threatens to lessen the formal structure of the park.