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CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT PLAN

Project No. 16-30

CIVIC PARK

Newcastle



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CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT PLAN**1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY****Introduction**

Carste STUDIO Pty Ltd was commissioned by Newcastle City Council to prepare a Conservation Management Plan (CMP) for Civic Park, Newcastle. This is required to guide the continued conservation of this important historic site and to manage future work and changes to the site.

The site has been recognised as a significant heritage item at a local level and is listed in the Newcastle Local Environmental Plan 2012.

This Conservation Management Plan (CMP) has been prepared in accordance with the following documents:

- The Burra Charter, 2013
- The Heritage Manual, published by the NSW Heritage Office
- The Conservation Plan, by James S. Kerr and published by the National Trust of Australia (NSW) Latest edition, 2000.
- Heritage Curtilages, published by the Department of Urban affairs and Planning.

These documents form the method for the assessment and determining the management for Civic Park.

The Site

The site is located in Newcastle and bounded by King Street, Darby Street, Auckland Street and Laman Street. The land is described as Lot 300 in Deposited Plan 604071, Lot 11 in DP 1098216, Lot 2 and Lot 5 in DP 95186, Lot 8 in DP 150031 and Lot 91 in DP 521033.

The park includes a central axis which is oriented north-south. The southern end commences at the steps at Laman Street, though the visual axis commences at the entry to the War Memorial Cultural Centre. The axis includes the symmetrical steps surrounding the Margel Hinder Fountain (Captain Cook Fountain), the pool and surrounding walls and paving, garden beds and hard paved paths. The northern end is defined by the War Memorial, though the visual axis terminates at the entrance to the City Hall and clock tower. Sandstone terraced and garden walls are located parallel to Laman Street and define the southern boundary of Civic Park. The western and eastern section of the park on either side of the central axis are open turfed areas planted with mature trees, and include minimal park furniture and concrete paths. There is a toilet block in the eastern section of the park and a storage shed and water tanks in the western section. In the south-east corner of the park is located an area used as a memorial grove, which is accessible from two paths in Laman Street and steps within the park on the north-west. There are a number of memorials within the park including the memorial to the World Wars and the Vietnam War memorial and a number of smaller plaques and bench memorials.

Physical Evidence

The land which includes Civic Park today was part of a 2000 acre land grant to the Australian Agricultural Company (AAC) in 1828. The AAC Charter included both an extensive land grant with access to the harbour and mining rights for coal for 30 years. Railways were built from the loading staithes to the AAC mines and to Hamilton where the AAC opened pits in 1840. This railway is evident in the 1857 map¹ (figure 3.2) passing along the east of Gibson Street, crossing Auckland Street bisecting today's Civic Park and then crossing Darby Street and over the cutting above King Street connecting to a bridge over Hunter Street and the harbour. The AAC continued to use this line until it was decommissioned in c1920.²

The Burwood Coal and Copper Company built a line in 1854 which crossed under Laman Street via a tunnel. An Act of Parliament was required to cross the AAC land to carry coal from the Merewether Estate to Newcastle Harbour. A designated corridor was required that included the tunnel in Laman Street and later, in order to form the dog-leg road of Dawson, Laman and Auckland Streets an overbridge was required, retaining walls and earth mounding.³

¹ 1857 plan of Newcastle, SR Map 4405.

² Hunter, Newcastle Civic and Cultural Precinct, p7

³ Hunter, Newcastle Civic and Cultural Precinct, p10

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The Burwood railway tunnel is evident in an 1896 plan (Figure 3.8 1896 plan of Newcastle, Civic Park) showing the retaining walls. The railway line ceased to operate in 1954 and was closed in 1955 and purchased by Newcastle Council in 1958. It is important as the first railway in the colony to transport public passengers⁴ The tunnel and embankment retaining walls are extant, though the tunnel is currently closed. Until the 1970s the Burwood railway was clearly marked with fig trees and crossed diagonally from the tunnel located today in the south-west of the park and crossed the park to the north-west connecting to Burwood Lane. The diagonal line of the railway is currently defined by the orientation of the storage shed and the steps to Laman Street.

The section of the park is shown in the 1896 plan as including two sheds and a building to the rear of St Andrews Presbyterian Church that may have been a stable. This area to the north of St Andrew's Presbyterian Church was leased from the AAC by the church for use as a horse paddock and stables.⁵ The area was also used as a timber yard by Andrew Cooks (destroyed by fire in 1908) prior to 1929 and P.W. Russell and Company, windmill manufacturers.

The first parcels of land that were to make up the future Civic Park were purchased at the western end between King Street and St Andrews in 1929, not for a park but for the purpose of administrative buildings related to Newcastle electricity.⁶ But by 1934 at least, this land seems to have been planted with new trees as part of the first step in the process of creating a park when W. Grant from Sydney's Royal Botanic Gardens prepared a layout for a section of land to the west of what was still a working coal line.⁷ In 1938 two more parcels of land were purchased on the other side of the then Burwood railway line between Laman and King St.⁸ However, it was not until 1958 that Newcastle City Council acquired the remaining coal line allowing these parcels to be continuous.⁹ The western section is therefore the original section of the park. The built elements within the western section include the Vietnam War Memorial, raised garden beds and paths.

This section of the park included a number of warehouses from 1918 to 1960. These included Breckenridge timber yards (damaged by fire in 1929), G.H Varleys engineering workshops (sited here from 1918) and Newcastle fibrous plaster works. In the 1940s a cricket pitch for the Police Citizens Boys Club was located in the central area. In 1945 a building was constructed for music tuition and this was added to in the 1960s. These were located on King Street and are likely to have been demolished when the Newcastle Conservatorium moved into the Salvation Army Peoples Palace on Auckland Street in 1981. In c1960 a large part of the eastern section was hard paved for a car park.

The eastern section of the park was gradually acquired by Newcastle Council. These acquisitions occurred in 1938, 1946, 1947 (refer to Appendix B chronology of acquisitions). It is evident that the use of the land for a civic park was still not planned as in c1960 following these acquisitions a large part of the eastern section was hard paved for a car park, though this proved to be temporary. In 1964 the final parcels adjoining Darby Street were purchased that allowed the whole site between King and Laman Streets and bound by Darby and Auckland Streets to be envisaged as Civic Park.¹⁰ It was not until 1979 that Civic Park was dedicated as a Public Reserve. The built elements within the eastern section include the toilet block, totem poles, raised garden beds and paths.

Archaeology – prepared by AMAC Group**Results***Archaeology: National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974*

A combined review of the current legislative framework (Appendix E, Section 1.5.1), previous Aboriginal archaeological studies surrounding the study site (Appendix E, Section 1.6.1) and a comprehensive AHIMS search (Appendix E, Section 2.1) was undertaken to assess the Aboriginal archaeological potential of the Civic Park site. Assessment of the data available, in association with current guidelines, has determined that areas of moderate to

⁴ Hunter, Newcastle Civic and Cultural Precinct, p10

⁵ Hunter, *Newcastle Civic and Cultural Precinct Historical Development* (Newcastle City Council, 2002)

⁶ Entertainment Committee, Report of Town Clerk No 24.

⁷ *Laman Street Fig Trees Cooks Hill*, p.9 & Barney, *The first 200 years*, p.77.

⁸ Entertainment Committee, Report of Town Clerk No 24.

⁹ Entertainment Committee, Report of Town Clerk No 24.

¹⁰ Entertainment Committee, Report of Town Clerk No 24 & *Laman Street Fig Trees Cooks Hill*, p.9.

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high archaeological potential are possible within undisturbed parts of the study area. The likelihood of any development to impact undisturbed Aboriginal objects or deposits will need to be assessed at the appropriate level by a suitably qualified archaeologist.

Archaeology: Heritage Act 1977

In its legislative framework (Appendix E, Section 1.5.2), Civic Park is listed on the State Heritage Inventory (SHI) and on the Newcastle Local Environment Plan as Item I430. In both instances the park is considered to hold local significance, but that significance is primarily vested in its function as a modern park in the Newcastle city centre. Its historical association with the AAC and Burwood lines is of secondary consideration on the State Heritage Inventory.

Assessment of the existing historical documentation surrounding Civic Park (Appendix E, Section 3.0) provides a broad estimate of areas of archaeological potential in so far as a summary of the research available to date. In this document forms an overlay of the available historical plans, locating all structures and potential known archaeological features, as well as dividing Civic Park into four areas (A, B, C, D) related to the historical use of the land. Concerning the preliminary assessment of archaeological potential:

- Area A is considered to have moderate to high archaeological potential.
- Area B is considered to have low archaeological potential.
- Area C is considered to have high archaeological potential.
- Area D is considered to have low archaeological potential.

While a preliminary potential archaeological significance of the site has been broadly identified in this document (Section 4.0), in order to assess the significance of Civic Park's historical archaeology to a standard acceptable by the Heritage Division, a full archaeological assessment would be required.

Recommendations*Archaeology: National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974*

In view of surrounding landscape features present, which do indicate that sub-surface Aboriginal objects with potential conservation value may be present, the following has been recommended:

- Any future development that has the potential to disturb the ground surface that is not classified as an exempt or low impact activity (DECCW 2010), or involves impact deemed to be trivial or negligible, will need as a minimum a due diligence archaeological assessment in accordance with the Due Diligence Code of Practice for the Protection of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales, Part 6 National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974, (DECCW 2010).
- Any recommendations arising from this level of assessment should conform to the relevant Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) guidelines and standards (see Appendix E, Section 1.5.1).

Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessments including consultation (in accordance with Due Diligence Code of Practice for the Protection of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales, Part 6 National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974, DECCW 2010), archaeological test excavation (in accordance with Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales, Part 6 National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974, DECCW 2010), salvage excavation and AHIPs are all possible outcomes from assessment and may be required for development within Civic Park, Newcastle.

Archaeology: Heritage Act 1977

Recommendations for future action concerning any proposed developments at Civic Park and impacts to the historical archaeological record have been provided in a table format in Appendix E, Section 5.2. Recommendations are based on the overview of current research pertaining to archaeological potential in Civic Park and the potential significance of that archaeology in terms of the NSW Heritage Act 1977. Broadly speaking, based on the archaeological potential of the identified areas (A, B, C, D) and potential range of significance, an archaeological assessment may be required depending on the proposed impacts and location of future developments at Civic Park.

CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT PLAN**Statement of Significance**

The land which today is Civic Park has a layered history of use. The Hunter River lies approximately 360 metres to the north of Civic Park and this distance may have been as little as 80m prior to European settlement. Settlement, sediments and reclamation events have dramatically changed the shorelines of the Hunter River estuary. The site has archaeological potential, although not visible on the surface, there may be Aboriginal objects or deposits representative of repeated and concentrated occupation of the Aboriginal nations who have occupied the area for up to 15,000 years at considerable depths. If present, these deposits may be locally or regionally significant.

Civic Park is historically important as a part of the extensive AAC land grant from 1828 and was traversed by a railway to transport coal from the pits at Hamilton to the staithes in the harbour. The documentary evidence of the AAC railway and the associated infrastructure are an important part of this layered history from c1840 until the decommissioning of the line in 1920. Any archaeological evidence of the AAC use of the site has potential state significance.

The industrial use of the land is a record of the development of Newcastle and the transition from a coal town largely in the ownership of the AAC to an industrial city. This land and the documentary evidence record these uses from the ownership of the AAC, leasing for other uses and then the gradual acquisition by Newcastle City Council. The western section of the land was used as timber yards by and Andrew Cook and Windmill Manufacturers, P.W. Russell and Co. prior to 1929. The eastern section of the park continued to be used for industry until the 1960s. These uses included Breckenridge timber yards and G.H Varleys engineering workshops and Newcastle fibrous plaster works. Any archaeological evidence of these early industrial uses of the site has potential local to state significance.

Particularly important in the history of the site is the Burwood Coal and Copper Company and the associated infrastructure including the tunnel and overbridge at Laman Street and the railway line that traversed the land. The documentary evidence records that in 1850 an Act of Parliament was required to cross the AAC land to carry coal from Mitchell's Merewether Estate to Newcastle Harbour. The railway was used by the Burwood Coal and Copper Company until its demise and then was used by later coal companies from the Burwood Estate until 1955. It is also important as the first railway in the colony to transport public passengers. The Burwood Coal and Copper Company tunnel and overpass are of exceptional significance at a State level. Any archaeological evidence of the Burwood Coal and Copper Company has potential state significance.

The park and surrounding buildings record the development of the civic context, as the AAC sold their land allowing the expansion of the city of Newcastle. The civic ideal was initiated by the building of the Town Hall, in 1929 later known as the City Hall, followed in 1957 by the War Memorial Cultural Centre. The transition of the land from an industrial site to a civic park is recorded in the gradual acquisition of land by Newcastle Council. The beginning of a park was initiated when the western section of the land was acquired by Newcastle Council in 1929 and by 1934 the western section is evident as a park that was designed by W. Grant from Sydney's Royal Botanical Gardens. In 1958 the Burwood Estate railway line was purchased and hence the land was no longer traversed by a train line. It is evident that the use of the land for a civic park was still not planned as in c1960 following these acquisitions a large part of the eastern section was hard paved for a car park. In 1961, the Memorial Grove was planned, the terraced stone walls along Laman Street, rose gardens on the central axis and a competition announced for a fountain. These 1960s alterations to the park are assessed as being of high significance at a local level. In 1964 the final parcels adjoining Darby Street were purchased that allowed the whole site bound by King, Laman, Darby and Auckland Streets to be envisaged as a Civic Park. Finally, in 1979, Civic Park was dedicated as a Public Reserve by the State, confirming its recreational value for the local community, and Council custodianship.

The development of the park is recorded by the evolution of the tree canopy, primarily *Ficus macrocarpa hillii* dating from the early 1930s, surviving from the Burwood Coal and Copper Company railway alignment and along the St Andrews Cathedral and Auckland Street boundaries. These *Ficus macrocarpa hillii* are of high significance at a local level. Other specimens which are evident in the park since the 1940s include *larger trees in the park* such as *Harpephyllum caffrum* Wild Plum and *Araucaria heterophylla* Norfolk Island Pine both evident in historic imagery from 1949. These 1940s specimens are of moderate to high significance respectively at a local level.

The fountain designed by Margel Hinder is of exceptional aesthetic significance in its sculptural form, craftsmanship and siting. It creates a sense of place in Civic Park, and from this a central axis extends in a north-south orientation framed on either side by the City Hall and the War Memorial Cultural Centre. The natural raised ground level at Laman Street allows for a grand double stair and terraces and from this height there are views over the extent of the park to City Hall. The fountain is of exceptional significance at a state level.

The tree canopy over the whole park and the groups of trees are important to the aesthetic significance of the park. The *Ficus microcarpa* 'hillii', some remnant from 1930s plantings contribute strongly to the park. The

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boundary plantings along Auckland Street and St Andrews Cathedral and the remnant alignment of the Burwood Coal Company Railway alignment provide a backdrop to the western section of the park. Many of the individual specimens on site are mature with impressive stature such as the *Araucaria heterophylla* and *Harphephyllum caffrum* and *Dracena draco*. These trees contribute to views within the park. The plants in the memorial grove form a close backdrop to the monuments and water features creating an enclosed setting.

Civic Park is esteemed by the local and Newcastle community and includes the workers in the city who use this park and value the open space, trees, Captain James Cook Memorial Fountain and memorials including the memorial grove, World War memorial, Vietnam War memorial and individual memorial plaques and benches throughout the park. Civic Park as a whole is assessed as being of high significance at a local level.

Civic Park may have cultural significance to the Aboriginal community which can only be ascertained by consultation with the contemporary community.

The local community value the trees in Civic Park due to their strong visual dominance in the centre of Newcastle. Plants in and around memorial grove will have significance to the families of those memorialised as these are part of the setting and provide a private place for viewing the memorials.

Levels of Significance

The levels of significance for Civic Park as a whole complex and the main built items are summarised below:

Item	Criteria	Significance Level
Civic Park	Historical	Local
	Aesthetic	Local
	Social	Local
	Technical	Potential Local and State
	Archaeological	
	Representative	State
Captain James Cook Memorial Fountain	Historical	State
	Aesthetic	State
	Social	Local
	Technical	na
	Rare	State
Laman Street Tunnel and Overpass	Historical	State
	Aesthetic	Requires further assessment
	Social	Local
	Technical	Requires further assessment
	Representative	Requires further assessment

CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT PLAN**Ratings of Significance**

The rating/grading of significance is based on the assessment of integrity of each item on the site. A more detailed assessment of the ratings of significance for Civic Park and its parts refer to Appendix A. The management recommendations for each rating of significance are contained in Section 10

A table is contained in section 7.5 that includes a rating of significance for each built and plant item within the study site.

Heritage Curtilage of setting of Civic Park

The curtilage of Civic Park is the lot boundary, including the Signalman's Cottage and the Burwood Coal and Copper Company tunnel and overbridge. This includes the lot boundary of Civic Park (Lot 300 in Deposited Plan 604071, Lot 11 in DP 1098216, Lots 2 and 5 in DP 95186, Lot 8 in DP 150031 and Lot 91 in DP 521033.) The curtilage also includes the Signalman's Cottage (Lot 12 DP150135) and the Burwood Coal and Copper Company tunnel and overbridge (Land no 121995, 9999 Laman St CH 2300, RD 20781, NCC).

A map showing the curtilage is shown in figure 5a.

Heritage Management of Civic Park

The opportunities and constraints are included in Section 9. These are based on the assessment of significance, the statutory controls and the input from the stakeholder workshops.

The conservation policy includes policies for built fabric, trees and vegetation. It includes general policy in addition to specific policy based on the ratings of significance for built items. The policy for tree conservation includes: Council propose to complete a tree succession strategy to manage the decline of trees and their replacement. This process will be informed by the Conservation Management Plan and Newcastle Council Urban Forest Policy.

- 10.1 Policies for Vegetation and Built Fabric Conservation
- 10.2 Policies for Site and Setting
- 10.4 Policies for the Eastern Section of the Park
- 10.5 Policies for Memorial Grove
- 10.6 Policies for Terrace and Central Axis
- 10.7 Policies for Archaeology: National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974
- 10.8 Policies for Historical Archaeology: Heritage Act 1977
- 10.9 Policies for Future Uses

Interpretation Strategy

The interpretation has the potential to be creative and varied in the method of display. It can include display of documentary evidence, enhancing the physical evidence of the site and built elements and plants, using sculpture, paving and signs in landscape to display the history of the place. There is also the potential for sound, digital or light displays. A more detailed full interpretation plan and implementation should be considered as this site attracts many users and has the potential to capture the attention of the many contemporary users of the park and provide a story of the Aboriginal use of the land and the development of the town of Newcastle.

The following historical themes, drawn from the inventory from this Conservation Management Plan and future investigations with the Guraki Committee and other Aboriginal Agencies.

- Interpretation of Aboriginal story of Country, 19th Century, Awabakal/Worimi Language and traditional owners.
- Interpretation of Industrial Development of the site including:
- AAC use of the site
- Burwood Coal and Copper Company use of Site

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- Timber Yards
- Windmill Manufacturers P.W. Russell and Co.
- G.H. Varleys engineering workshops and Newcastle fibrous plaster works.
- Interpretation of Other Uses of Civic Park including:
- Cricket pitch for the Police Citizens Boys Club
- Music Tuition Rooms
- WWII trenches (more research required)
- Extensions to the Central Children's Library (more research required)

CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT PLAN**2. INTRODUCTION****2.1 The Brief**

Carste STUDIO Pty Ltd was commissioned by Newcastle City Council to prepare a Conservation Management Plan (CMP) for Civic Park Newcastle. This is required to guide the continued conservation of this important historic site and to manage future work and changes to the site. The site is located in Newcastle and bounded by King Street, Darby Street, Auckland Street and Laman Street. The land is described as Lot 300 in Deposited Plan 604071, Lot 11 in DP 1098216, Lot 2 and Lot 5 in DP 95186, Lot 8 in DP 150031 and Lot 91 in DP 521033.

The site has been recognised as a significant heritage item at a local level and is listed in the Newcastle Local Environmental Plan 2012.

The site investigation was undertaken by Stephen Booker and Elizabeth Evans of carste STUDIO in May and July 2016. Julie Marler of Phillips Marler investigated the plant material. Michael Williams, historian researched the history and Jaki Baloh and Ben Streat of Archaeological Management and Consulting Group compiled the archaeology. Elizabeth Evans and Stephen Booker of carste STUDIO assessed the built structures within Civic Park. The Conservation Management Plan was prepared by Elizabeth Evans and reviewed by Stephen Booker in 2016.

2.2 Method

This Conservation Management Plan (CMP) has been prepared in accordance with the following documents:

- The Burra Charter, 2013
- The Heritage Manual, published by the NSW Heritage Office
- The Conservation Plan, by James S. Kerr and published by the National Trust of Australia (NSW) Latest edition, 2000.
- Heritage Curtilages, published by the Department of Urban affairs and Planning.

These documents form the method for the assessment and determining the management for Civic Park

The Burra Charter

The Burra Charter evolved from the Venice Charter, which was drafted in Europe in 1964 and aimed to provide guidance for the care of historic monuments. In 1977, Australia ICOMOS reviewed the applicability of the Venice Charter in Australia. At a meeting at the historic mining town of Burra in South Australia in 1979, the Australia ICOMOS *Guidelines for Conservation of Places of Cultural Significance* was adopted. During its years of application, the Burra Charter has been reviewed a number of times and is now known as the Burra Charter, 2013.

The conservation management plan method detailed in the Burra Charter, 2013 is contained in the introductory statement of Article 6 – Burra Charter Process:

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.

The terms used throughout this CMP are those definitions in the Burra Charter that include: change, maintenance, preservation, restoration, reconstruction, adaptation interpretation and conserving use. These definitions are contained in Section 10.

The Burra Charter, 2013 identifies the need to recommend a timeframe for the review of the CMP.

The NSW Heritage Manual

The NSW Heritage Manual ensures that the method of determining the significance of a place is as objective as possible. Seven standard evaluation criteria are applied to determine the importance of a place. These are explained and applied to this site in Section 8.

The Conservation Plan by Dr James S. Kerr

Kerr described the Conservation Plan:

...a document which sets out what is significant in a place and consequently, what policies are appropriate to enable that significance to be retained in its future use and development. For most places, it deals with the management of change.

CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT PLAN**2.3 Site Location and Description**

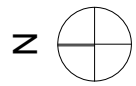
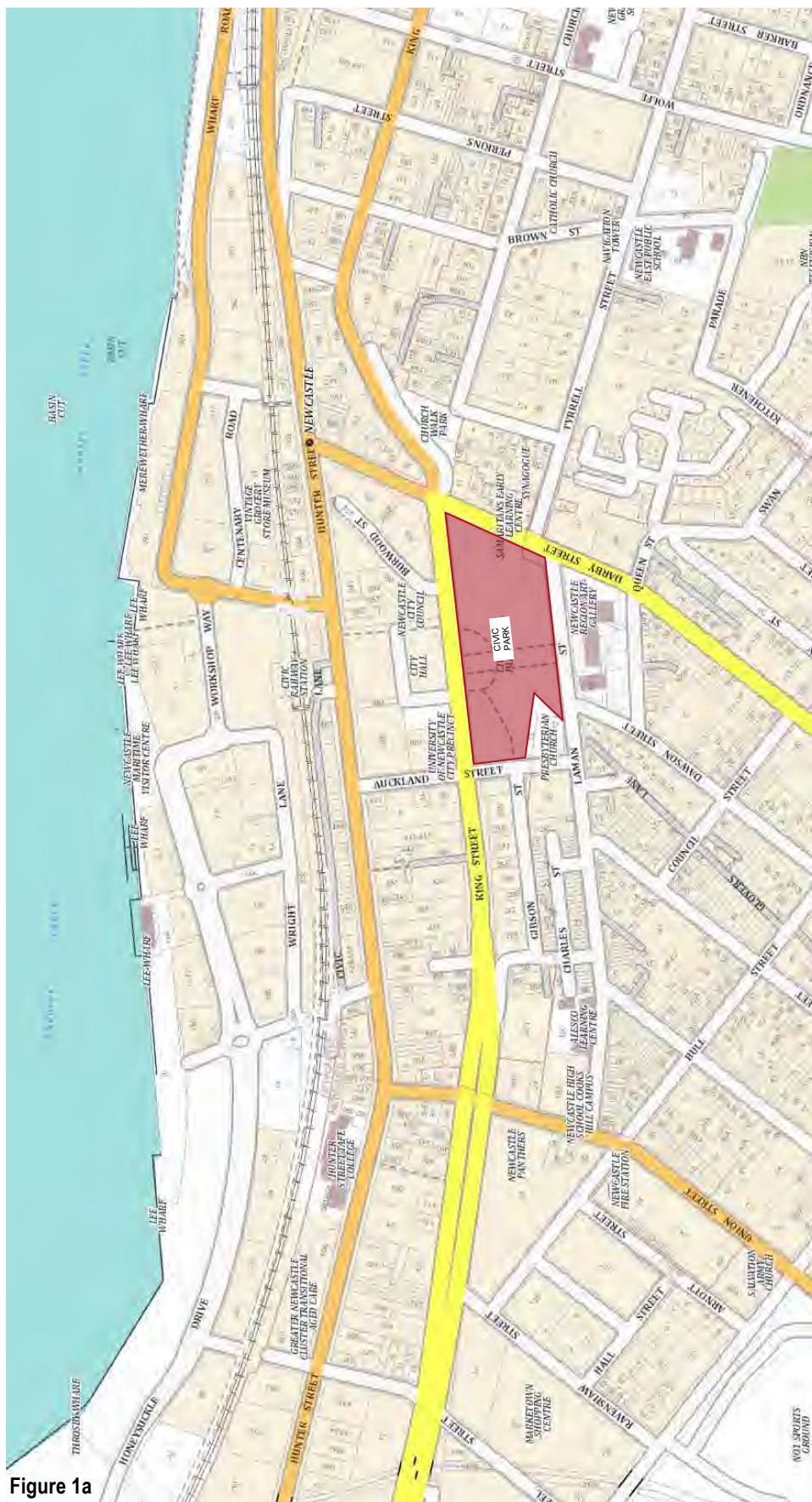
The site is located in Newcastle and bounded by King Street, Darby Street, Auckland Street and Laman Street. The land is described as Lot 300 in Deposited Plan 604071, Lot 11 in DP 1098216, Lot 2 and Lot 5 in DP 95186, Lot 8 in DP 150031 and Lot 91 in DP 521033.

The park includes a central axis which is oriented north-south. The southern end commences at the steps at Laman Street, though the visual axis commences at the entry to the War Memorial Cultural Centre. The axis includes the symmetrical steps surrounding the Margel Hinder Fountain (Captain Cook Fountain), the pool and surrounding walls and paving, garden beds and hard paved paths. The northern end is defined by the War Memorial, though the visual axis terminates at the entrance to the City Hall and clock tower.

Sandstone terraced and garden walls are located parallel to Laman Street and define the southern boundary of Civic Park. This raised height of Laman Street and the terraced walls on this southern boundary overlook Civic Park to the north.

The western and eastern section of the park on either side of the central axis are open turfed areas planted with mature trees, and include minimal park furniture and concrete paths. Sandstone retaining walls in a curvilinear form serve to retain garden beds in both the east and west section of the park. There is a toilet block in the eastern section of the park and a shed and water tanks in the western section.

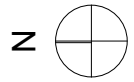
In the south-east corner of the park is located an area used as a memorial grove, which is accessible from two paths in Laman Street and steps within the park on the north-west as shown in the site plan. This area includes a number of memorials and specific planting and stone retaining walls that enclose this space and visually separate this from the relative openness of the remainder of the park. There are a number of memorials within the park including the memorial to the World Wars and the Vietnam War memorial and a number of smaller plaques and bench memorials.



LOCATION PLAN

Figure 1a
Location Map

source: Six Maps



SITE PLAN

Figure 2a
Site Plan
Subject site shown in red outline

source: Six Maps
carste STUDIO pty ltd

September 2016

CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT PLAN**2.4 Site Owner**

The site is owned by the Newcastle City Council.

2.5 Limitations of the CMP

A comparative assessment of similar parks to Civic Park was not part of this study as this was not included in the scope of work in the brief.

2.6 Definitions and Acronyms

The following terms and acronyms have been used in this report:

- Conservation Management Plan (CMP)
- Local Environmental Plan (LEP)
- State Heritage Register (SHR)
- State Heritage Inventory (SHI)
- Australian Agricultural Company (AAC)

2.7 Authors

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CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT PLAN**3. DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE¹¹**

Prepared by Dr Michael Williams

3.1 Civic Park

Civic Park Newcastle is rare among public spaces in Australian cities in being located at the heart of such a large array of public buildings. These include the Newcastle City Hall, the council administration building, Civic Theatre, the City Library, Newcastle Art Gallery, the Newcastle Conservatorium of Music, elements of Newcastle University, two churches and Law Courts.



Figure 3: Civic Park looking towards the City Hall

This is a concentration of public use that did not come about by chance, although not all has evolved as past planners had hoped. While the chief civic functions of the City of Newcastle are focused here, the main commercial activities, which were along nearby Hunter Street, has shifted elsewhere, while the recent removal of the railway line from this precinct has further emphasised the evolving relative isolation of this area from the rest of Newcastle City. However, local council functions are now being supplemented by educational ones that look to continue Civic Park as a public space in ways not originally envisaged by its creators.

Within Civic Park proper there has developed an array of features centered in the main on memorial plaques and monuments, primarily, but not exclusively, war memorial in nature. Although the prime memorial is a 1960s abstract sculptural fountain originally designed with no thought for the English explorer it is now named for.

3.2 Aboriginal heritage

The continuing presence of Aboriginal people in the Newcastle area before and after white settlement is well recorded. The Blanket Returns of 1827 for example recorded at least two distinct groups in the area, the Coal

¹¹ Refer also to Appendix B: Chronology of land purchases prepared by Cynthia Hunter p 31

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River Tribe numbering 140 people and the Ash Island Tribe of 120 persons.¹² Numerous finds of artifacts in the area surrounding what is now Civic Park demonstrates the presence of Aboriginal people in this specific location also.¹³

3.3 Swampy land with industrial usage

The earliest settlement in Newcastle did not quite reach to the area that later became Civic Park with the surveyed town ending at Brown Street.¹⁴ This left the low-lying swamp, some report lakes or stagnant pools, to largely industrial usages up until 1929.¹⁵ This industrial use, as with Newcastle generally, involved coal with the area being part of the Australian Agricultural Company (AAC) grant in 1828 and associated with its nearby coal pits. This coal association also involved two railway lines for transporting coal to the wharves.¹⁶ One of these two lines, the Burwood line built in 1854 crossed under Laman Street via a tunnel and was the first tram with public access in Australia.¹⁷



Figure 4: Industrial usage

The corner of Darby and King Streets had a variety of industrial uses before becoming part of Civic Park.

(Morrison, *Newcastle: times past*)

The AAC history is remembered in Laman Street, which is named after Thomas Laman, the AAC's Superintendent of Works in the 1850s. Laman St. constitutes the southern boundary of Civic Park and originally separated the residences of Cooks Hill from the swampy land to the north.¹⁸ The AAC sold its land in the beginning of the 20th

¹² Sanity, M.R. & Johnson, K. A., Census of New South Wales, November 1829. *Library of Australian History*, Sydney, p.15, recorded in *Laman Street Fig Trees Cooks Hill*, p.4.

¹³ For a summary of such finds see Baloh and Streat, *Conservation Management Plan: Aboriginal and Historical Archaeology Component*, pp.16-19.

¹⁴ Hunter, Newcastle Civic and Cultural Precinct, p.7.

¹⁵ *Newcastle Morning Herald*, 15th July 1892, p.7; *The Newcastle Sun*, 11th November 1937, p.10 & 8th September 1947, p.21.

¹⁶ *Laman Street Fig Trees Cooks Hill*, p.9.

¹⁷ Hunter, Newcastle Civic and Cultural Precinct, p.10.

¹⁸ *Laman Street Fig Trees Cooks Hill*, p.6.

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century and the area in and around the later Civic Park was occupied by timberyards, engineering workshops and other businesses.¹⁹

The industrial occupants of the land that became Civic Park included Andrew Cook's timber yards c.1900, and a building owned by the windmill manufacturer P.W. Russell & Co. In the eastern end was Breckenridge's Timberyards, which were damaged by a fire in 1929; this was in addition to both the Breckenridge and Cook timberyards having been in 1908 destroyed by fires within days of each other. After the 1930s, when Newcastle Council had already begun acquiring land for Civic Park, industrial usage was confined to the Darby Street frontage and included timberyards, G. H. Varley's engineering workshops, which had been were sited there since 1918, and Newcastle Fibrous Plaster Works.²⁰

The sole representative of this industrial use presently remaining is the signalman's cottage, now owned by St Andrews Church and largely obscured from public view by a stone built storage shed of unknown date.²¹ For a time a line of trees also marked the route of the Burwood line across the park but these have been removed and the line is best marked now by either the storage shed or the nearby steps leading up from the park to Laman Street.

3.4 First community buildings

The area was not all swamp however and two religious groups, the Presbyterians and the Baptists both built their churches adjacent to this area in 1890 - St Andrews on Auckland Street for £10,500 and the Baptist Tabernacle on Laman Street for £4750, and both designed by Fredrick. B. Menkens. Later, in 1928, the Salvation Army built a People's Palace also on Auckland Street, opened by then NSW Premier Bavin, which in the 1980s was renovated and occupied by the Conservatorium of Music. These religious functions constituted the sum of community functions in the area until 1929.²²

3.5 Newcastle City seeks a centre

It was in 1929 that the Newcastle Town Hall was built on King St and the concept of developing the land opposite into a Civic Park first began to grow.²³ It is not clear if this was part of the reason for building the Town Hall in this location or if the logic of such a park came after. Morris Light as Newcastle Mayor is credited with envisaging the Civic Centre, which for him was the Town Hall, the theatre and surrounding shops, but not a park.²⁴ Certainly one writer in 1929 outlined his recommendations for creating just such a park as if it was his original idea. This was W. A. Bay who later became a Deputy Mayor of Newcastle.²⁵ That the site chosen was to the west of the then main area of Newcastle was in part due to the expectation that once a Greater Newcastle Council was created the more western site would in fact be more central.²⁶

¹⁹ *Laman Street Fig Trees Cooks Hill*, p.9 & Ray, *Changing places*, pp.30-31.

²⁰ *Goulburn Evening Penny Post*, 13th August 1908, p.2; *Newcastle Morning Herald*, 28th October 1929, p.7; 28th November 1918, p.3; Baloh and Streat, *Conservation Management Plan: Aboriginal and Historical Archaeology Component*, pp.23-26 & *Laman Street Fig Trees Cooks Hill*, p.9.

²¹ *Laman Street Fig Trees Cooks Hill*, p.9.

²² *Newcastle Morning Herald*, 3 October 1890, p.8; 1st December 1890, p.7 & 16th May 1953, p.5.

²³ In 1939 when Greater Newcastle was formed the Town Hall was renamed City Hall.

²⁴ *The Newcastle Sun*, 13th July 1925, p.5.

²⁵ *Newcastle Morning Herald*, 7th September 1929, p.14 & 29 May 1941, p.6.

²⁶ *The Newcastle Sun*, 11th September 1920, p.4; *Newcastle Morning Herald*, 15th September 1920, p.6 & 4th April 1922, p.5.

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The site for the new Town – later City – Hall was relatively isolated but did allow for future growth including for Civic Park.

(Morrison, *Newcastle: times past*)

Figure 5: City Hall built in 1929

The first parcels of land that were to make up the future Civic Park were purchased at the western end between King Street and St Andrews in 1929 not for a park but for the purpose of administrative buildings related to Newcastle electricity.²⁷ But by 1934 at least, this land seems to have been planted with new trees as part of the first step in the process of creating a park when W. Grant from Sydney's Botanic Gardens prepared a layout for a section of land to the west of what was still a working coal line.²⁸ The name Civic Park was first used for any potential park opposite the City Hall at a council meeting in April 1937 though for many years the park continued to be referred to simply as "the park opposite the City Hall".²⁹

After the creation of Greater Newcastle City in 1930 a number of plans and proposals were made for a "Civic Square".³⁰ In 1938 two more parcels of land were purchased on the other side of the then Burwood railway line between Laman and King St.³¹ However, it was not until 1958 that Newcastle City Council acquired the remaining coal line allowing these parcels to be continuous.³² And not until 1964 that the final parcels at the Darby Street end were purchased that allowed the whole site between King St and Laman St and bounded by Darby and Auckland Streets to be envisaged as Civic Park.³³

Despite these final purchases, it was the late 1940s and early 1950s when the concept of a 'Civic Park' was established, including its fountain.³⁴ This Civic Park concept was integrally bound up with the location of a number of buildings with a community function around the edges of Civic Park. This was the idea of a 'civic centre' of which a 'Civic Park' was just one element.³⁵ In addition to the already existing City Hall the most important of these was a proposed War Memorial Cultural Centre to be built on the other side of the park area directly opposite the City Hall.

The opening of the War Memorial Cultural Centre containing an art gallery, library and music conservatorium in 1957 on Laman St and opposite the Newcastle City Hall created a natural precinct within which to grow the Civic Park concept. Although the War Memorial Cultural Centre was not established without some opposition, especially

²⁷ Entertainment Committee, Report of Town Clerk No 24.

²⁸ *Laman Street Fig Trees Cooks Hill*, p.9 & Barney, *The first 200 years*, p.77.

²⁹ Civic Park and Civic and Cultural Precinct History Timeline & *Newcastle Morning Herald*, 16th December 1941, p.2.

³⁰ Hunter, *Newcastle Civic and Cultural Precinct*, pp.36-37.

³¹ Entertainment Committee, Report of Town Clerk No 24.

³² Entertainment Committee, Report of Town Clerk No 24.

³³ Entertainment Committee, Report of Town Clerk No 24 & *Laman Street Fig Trees Cooks Hill*, p.9.

³⁴ *Newcastle Morning Herald* 2nd December 1947, p.3 & 2nd April 1951, p.2.

³⁵ *Newcastle Morning Herald*, 6th June 1951, p.1.

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due to the Laman St housing resumptions it required when calls were made in 1947 to look to the “living over the dead”.³⁶

A succession of community purpose buildings was essential to the ‘civic’ ideal of Civic Park. These began with the new City Hall and Civic Theatre in 1929 and in 1939 NESCA House, accommodating the council’s electricity supply department, opened adjacent to the City Hall on King Street.³⁷ In 1951 a timber building conservatorium actually occupied land within the future park itself. The 1957 Memorial Cultural Centre originally housed a library, conservatorium and Art Gallery but in 1977 a separate Art Gallery was built further along Laman St and in the same year a separate council administrative building was erected along side the City Hall. In 1981 the Newcastle Conservatorium of Music also took up separate accommodation in the former Salvation Army People’s Palace on Auckland St. Finally in 1988, a 500 seat concert hall was built and in 1992 the University of Newcastle occupied NESCA House on the City Hall side of King St. In 2016 new Law Courts are being built at the corner of Hunter and Burwood Streets.

3.6 Civic Park evolves

A park is foremost a piece of land and examination of the land under Civic Park tells us much about its history. According to a soil investigation report conducted in 2005 the land now known as Civic Park was a “bay like area with an estuarine but sandy beach”. This was filled over many years with “rubbish, mining wastes, industry wastes (coal and metal industries) and fill and spoil from adjacent building sites”. On the eastern side of the park this material was compacted and a road base “of water worn pebbles in a sandy loam matrix” was laid down in all likelihood for a car park, including some section of asphalt. The western side of the park however does not appear to have had a road base layer.³⁸

It was on top of this landscape that the Civic Park has been built as soil more suited to grass and trees has been layered on top. While various elements such as sandstone walls, paths, a fountain and numerous memorials in brick, stone and concrete have also been scattered around the various trees. The park as it is at present evolved from its late 1950s design foundation.

However, after the 1934 acquisition of the western end of what is now Civic Park the first formal use appears to have been in the early 1940s as a sports field with the Police Citizens Boys Club laying down a cricket pitch and perhaps more. But even at that early stage the council was wary of making a permanent commitment to sports facilities.³⁹ At that time the area “opposite the City Hall” was also used for air raid trenches.⁴⁰ Later this area was then used for out door concerts, with the park provided with a music shell in 1951.⁴¹ It also housed some buildings constructed as “extensions to the Central Children’s Library”.⁴² Despite these activities and buildings, in 1957 the park area was still described as a “wilderness” and part of the area to the east was covered with a car park.⁴³ But Council’s intention was clearly to develop the park into a “beauty spot” of which “the city could be proud”.⁴⁴

Perhaps the first step in establishing Civic Park as a “beauty spot” occurred when a war memorial was erected just opposite the City Hall in 1951. This was a stone base with a steel flagpole and from this time it became the site for ANZAC Day commemorations.⁴⁵

³⁶ Wiseman, From park to palace, p.16.

³⁷ *The Newcastle Sun*, 8th September 1939, p.8.

³⁸ Soil Investigations for Civic Park Newcastle, p.19.

³⁹ *Newcastle Morning Herald*, 18th September 1941, p.4 & *The Newcastle Sun*, 1st July 1942, p.2.

⁴⁰ *Newcastle Morning Herald*, 16th December 1941, p.2. (Credit for pointing this usage out goes to AMAC.)

⁴¹ *The Newcastle Sun*, 10th March 1951, p.1.

⁴² *Newcastle Morning Herald*, 20th March 1952, p.2.

⁴³ *The Newcastle Sun*, 10th March 1951, p.1 & Morrison, *Newcastle: times past*, p.99.

⁴⁴ *Newcastle Herald*, 24th April 1957.

⁴⁵ Civic Park and Civic and Cultural Precinct History Timeline; Refurbishment of WW1/WW2 Monument in Civic Park.

CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT PLAN**3.6.1 Memorial Grove**

Perhaps as a result of this association with ANZAC Day major landscaping began in the early 1960s with the sandstone walls for the memorial grove established at the Laman and Darby Streets corner. The wall continued along the Laman Street embankment and was completed about 1969 and was made up of sandstone blocks reclaimed from kerbs in the city streets. The memorial grove itself was proposed and donated by three Newcastle Garden Clubs and the City Council and designed by Sydney based architect Augustus Alley.⁴⁶

New Lambton Heights No 1 and 2 Garden Clubs and Beach Garden Club suggested the scheme and raised £1000 of the total cost of the beautification project the balance was met by Newcastle City Council, the Victoria League and Newcastle District Council of Ex-service Sub Branches.⁴⁷

The Memorial Grove was built at a cost of £2,500 and was dedicated in a ceremony performed by the Anglican Bishop of Newcastle in November 1961.⁴⁸ This was described as a 'consecration', thus creating a problem for those suggesting moving the grove's memorials as part of any re-landscaping plans. In 1989 and again in 2004/5 proposals to move the Memorial Grove sparked opposition from veterans who declared it consecrated ground.

The largest addition to the Memorial Grove came in 1967 when The Royal Australian Air Force Memorial was unveiled.

The Memorial comprises a sandstone tapered column 3.0 metres in height, surmounted by a 'Wedgetail Eagle', carved from a solid block of 'Ravensworth' sandstone which stands majestically 1.2 metres above the top of the column.⁴⁹



Sculptured by Don McHattie, who was himself in the RAAF, from sandstone donated by Newcastle City Council and commissioned by the Newcastle Branch of the Air Force Association.

(Bennett, Memorial Grove Civic Park Newcastle, p.49)

Figure 6: RAAF Memorial within the Memorial Grove, Civic Park

Unlike the pre-Vatican II service consecrating the Memorial Grove itself and performed by the Anglican Bishop alone, the dedication service for the RAAF memorial was a combined one that included a Catholic priest as well as 20 R.A.A.F. servicemen from Williamtown R.A.A.F. Base as a Guard of Honour.⁵⁰

In the same year the Western Suburbs Leagues Club erected a flagpole in the Memorial Grove with a plaque dedicating it to the Newcastle Air Force Association.⁵¹ A year later a bronze wreath was fixed to the RAAF monument in honour of the W.A.A.A.F. Association.⁵²

⁴⁶ Bennett, Memorial Grove Civic Park Newcastle, p.10.

⁴⁷ Newcastle Herald, 11th November 1961, quoted in Bennett, Memorial Grove Civic Park Newcastle, p.11.

⁴⁸ Civic Park and Civic and Cultural Precinct History Timeline (n.d.)

⁴⁹ Bennett, Memorial Grove Civic Park Newcastle, p.49.

⁵⁰ Bennett, Memorial Grove Civic Park Newcastle, p.49.

⁵¹ Bennett, Memorial Grove Civic Park Newcastle, p.55.

⁵² Bennett, Memorial Grove Civic Park Newcastle, p.58.

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Among other trees within the memorial grove was a Lone Pine planted in 1969 by Newcastle Legacy with a plaque stating:

This tree is a seedling of the 24 Battalion tree growing at the Memorial Shrine at Melbourne. The 24 Battalion Tree was grown from a pine cone from the original Lone Pine at Gallipoli picked up by a soldier of that battalion just prior to the final evacuation from the peninsula in 1915.⁵³

Another was a Flame tree said to represent the blood of those lost in battle.⁵⁴

Numerous other group memorial include: The Australian Women's Army Service, 1942-1947; HMAS Condamine built at the Newcastle dockyards; Rats of Tobruk Association in memory of fallen comrades; The Victoria League (Newcastle Branch) listing volunteer war effort associations; a Vietnam War memorial, 1962-1972; and one from the Naval Association in memory of naval personnel lost in both world wars and Vietnam;

In addition to these group memorials numerous individual memorials have also been placed in the grove by families and others.⁵⁵ Finally a separate Vietnam War memorial was placed at the western end of the park in 1987 dedicated to "the Newcastle, Lake Macquarie and Hunter Valley men who gave their lives", while a rebuilding of the main war memorial took place in 2003.

3.6.2 James Cook Memorial Fountain

Around the same time as the Memorial Grove was established work was also done on a formal rose garden along the central axis between the War Memorial Cultural Centre and the City Hall. It was here that a fountain was planned with a competition for the best design held in 1961, though the final fountain was not opened until 1966. Before the fountain's opening the newly landscaped Civic Park became one of the main locations for Mattara, an annual Newcastle spring festival that began in 1961 and ran until the late 1980s.

Early designs had sited a fountain in the centre of the park but by the time of the 1961 design competition the brief called for a design positioned against the Laman Street embankment. The winning design was by sculptural artist Margel Hinder who was also commissioned at this time to provide a sculpture for the Reserve Bank building in Sydney. A delay by Newcastle City Council in commissioning the artist meant she began work on the Reserve Bank project first and consequently the Civic Park fountain was not opened until 1966.⁵⁶ This delay, as well as a cost blowout that almost doubled the original budget, saw the fountain dubbed Newcastle's "mini Opera House" in an echo of similar delays and cost increases that plagued the Sydney Opera House at that time.⁵⁷

⁵³ Bennett, Memorial Grove Civic Park Newcastle, p.62.

⁵⁴ Civic Park and Civic and Cultural Precinct History Timeline (n.d.)

⁵⁵ For a full listing see, Bennett, Memorial Grove Civic Park Newcastle.

⁵⁶ *Newcastle Morning Herald*, 1st November 1963.

⁵⁷ *Newcastle Sun*, 22nd March 1966.

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Figure 7: The Civic Park Fountain looking across Laman Street to the Baptist Tabernacle

In another echo of the Sydney Opera House, technical innovations had to be employed in order to achieve the design concept. In the case of the Civic Park Fountain this involved cutting up ovenproof dishes to provide lens for the underwater lights that would not crack under the combination of heat from the lights and the cold water.⁵⁸

The design of what was at first called the Civic Park Fountain was abstract and explanations of its meaning by the artist suitably vague. In 1970 occurred the bi-centennial celebrations of the arrival of Captain James Cook off Australia's east coast and in order to qualify for a grant to upgrade some of the surroundings of the fountain and to mark the bi-centennial without too much cost the fountain was renamed the James Cook Memorial Fountain.⁵⁹



Figure 8: Civic Park 1972

Civic Park not long after the fountain was completed. The line of the former railway can clearly be seen cutting across the park. The eastern end of the park is relatively bare of trees and the sandstone platform can be seen directly opposite from where the administration building is under construction and before the addition of its ceramic 'totem' poles.

(Morrison, *Newcastle: times past*)

⁵⁸ *Newcastle Morning Herald*, 19th April 1966.

⁵⁹ Hunter, *Newcastle Civic and Cultural Precinct*, p.47; *Newcastle Herald*, 29th April 1970.

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The fountain has attracted a variety of activities ranging from belly dancing to having coloured lights and dyes add to its visual effects.⁶⁰ At one point the use of illumination was criticised by the artist, who described new green lighting as “sinister”.⁶¹ At other times the pool has had coins thrown into it to be fished out by enterprising children while other children have used the fountain’s shallow pool for swimming or boating with subsequent health concerns.⁶² The fountain has also been extensively repaired, including a \$830,000 upgrade in 2005.⁶³

3.6.3 Other memorials

Outside the Memorial Grove are to be found a number of other memorial markers, particularly those marking trees planted. Such Memorial trees include: the 50th Year of Newcastle Legacy; Kanichi Nakayasu – 28th February 1984 of Ube; Joan M. May Australian first international president of Quota International, 1975-1976; Commemorating the Newcastle – Ube sister city relationship, 1980; and JHM Evans, Chair Newcastle sub-committee of the State Public Relations Committee, Fire Accident and Marine Underwriters Association, 1961.



Figure 9: One of many memorial tree markers

There are also a few memorial benches such as that to well-known Cook’s Hill local Lillie Woods 1918 – 2007, ‘Lillie of the Valley’. Another is the ‘Trooper E. L. Whalan Memorial Seat’, which is listed as a war memorial.⁶⁴ These are fully wooden benches that seem to have replaced concrete and wooden ones of the 1960s.⁶⁵

On the City Hall side of the park stands a small cluster of bottlebrushes and nearly hidden among these are several totem pole like sculptures in ceramic. The poles and trees have all been planted randomly around a more regular structure in sandstone that consists of four short paths all leading to a low central platform that appears to have once had something bolted to it. The origin of both the base and the totems is unclear though the ceramic poles may have been part of the Mattara festival at one point. Neither the totems nor trees were evident in 1973 when the platform stood out clearly in the eastern section of the park then largely bare of trees.⁶⁶

⁶⁰ *Newcastle Herald*, 17th June 2010.

⁶¹ *Newcastle Sun*, 5th December 1973.

⁶² Barney, *The first 200 years*, p.20.

⁶³ *Newcastle Herald*, 11th January 2005

⁶⁴ Register of War Memorial NSW (<https://www.warmemorialsregister.nsw.gov.au>)

⁶⁵ Barney, *The first 200 years*, p.120.

⁶⁶ Morrison, *Newcastle: times past*, p.96.

CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT PLAN**3.6.4 Natural change**

While the fountain remains the centerpiece of the park many changes have continued to amend its landscape. Even in the 1970s the line of the former Burwood railway was clearly marked with a path and a line of trees despite this crossing the planned avenue from the fountain to the War Memorial. However that older historical line gradually faded.⁶⁷ In addition a number of large trees were destroyed in the 2007 storm and again in 2015 when the Lone Pine was destroyed.⁶⁸ In this same year the figs along Laman St that over shadowed the park were removed. The Lone Pine was replaced with another Lone Pine descendent in 2016 and the figs have also been replaced, though in both cases it will be many years before they regain their former presence.

3.7 Civic Park as public space

The park has served a variety of public uses. The earliest of which was when the ANZAC Day services changed from Prince Edward Park to Civic Park at the beginning of the 1950s.⁶⁹ This occurred with the erection of a war memorial in the park just opposite the City Hall in 1951. Originally a stone base and flagpole, in 2003 a five metre black granite obelisk replaced the flagpole.⁷⁰



Figure 10: War Memorial opposite City Hall

In the 1950s it was the practice to plant in the area around the War Memorial a Field of Remembrance with wooden crosses inscribed with their names by the deceased veterans families. Though some controversy over what to do with the crosses afterwards may have caused the practice to be discontinued.⁷¹

⁶⁷ Morrison, *Newcastle: times past*, p.96.

⁶⁸ Newcastle Herald, 22nd April 2015 (<http://www.theherald.com.au/story/3030616/lone-pine-falls-in-anzac-day-lead-up/>)

⁶⁹ *Newcastle Morning Herald*, 24th January 1950, p.2.

⁷⁰ Civic Park and Civic and Cultural Precinct History Timeline; Refurbishment of WW1/WW2 Monument in Civic Park.

⁷¹ *Newcastle Herald*, 14th April 1953 & 28th April 1953.

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Also in 1951 the park housed for a time a 'music shell', which was originally at Prince Edward Park. This enabled outdoor performances to be held in the park by the Newcastle Combined Orchestra for the Jubilee Festival, the Music Out-of-Doors Concert, and was perhaps hired out to other groups as well. Originally located near the boundary with St Andrews Church, the music shell was moved at least once, though how long it was in use is not clear.⁷² While mostly used for music, perhaps the most unusual performance to modern eyes was the reenactment by the Salvation Army's Youth for Christ members of Colonel George Walker's being forced at the point of a samurai sword into a "concentration camp" built on the stage of the music shell, complete with the Lambton Salvation Army Choir dressed in Chinese costumes.⁷³

Perhaps the earliest use of Civic Park as a public space and certainly the longest continual running was the Mattara festival that commenced in 1961. Mattara means 'hand' in the language of the Awabakal people.⁷⁴ While Mattara in 1961 was a Newcastle wide festival many events took place at Civic Park including the 'Night of Gaiety for Young Folk' with square dancing, Rock and Roll and other dance forms on the lawns.⁷⁵ There was also a variety of other concerts on a specially erected stage in the park, an art exhibition, an exhibition of native flora and fauna, and a film night by the Workers Educational Association.⁷⁶



Figure 11: This Newcastle wide festival ran for over two decades

In 1961 Civic Park was also the venue where '12 young women' were judged by the Lord Mayor on their 'personality, charm, deportment, general ability, interests and attainments' to see who would be the Mattara Princess. The winner receiving such rewards as open orders from David Jones and 'foundation garments' from Berlei.⁷⁷

⁷² *The Newcastle Sun*, 10th March 1951, p.1; 19th March 1951, p.2 & 31st August 1951, p.2.

⁷³ *Newcastle Morning Herald*, 19th January 1952, p.4.

⁷⁴ Mattara, [p.1]

⁷⁵ Mattara, [p.7]

⁷⁶ Mattara, [passim]

⁷⁷ Mattara, [p.6]

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The park has also been a gathering place for public protests such as when unionists demonstrated against penalty clause changes in 1965.⁷⁸ And more recently when 2,000 people used the park to protest the closure of the railway to Newcastle.⁷⁹

The park is also the venue for NAIDOC week (National Aborigines and Islanders Day Observance Committee), and most recently Civic Park has also become the venue for the monthly Olive Tree Market, a market for handmade art. While in 2015 the Newcastle Youth Orchestra held a special Christmas event called Orchestra Intergallactica.

3.8 Fig trees and Public Trust

The most recent controversy to impact on Civic Park was over trees that made up a significant part of the parks' landscape without actually being in the park. Planted in Laman St in the 1930s they were outside Civic Park but so dominated the landscape that they were an integral part of the precinct.

The controversy was the result of a council decision to remove the trees on the basis of expert advice that they were approaching the end of their lifespan and would become a danger to the public. Notwithstanding this advice a significant group opposed the removal of any trees and groups such as the Parks and Playground Movement Inc. and Save Our Figs took action in the streets and courts.

Despite the public protests on January 30th, 2012 at 5:45am chainsaws began removing the 80-year-old figs amidst cries of protesters.⁸⁰ However by October of that same year the redevelopment of Laman Street with a new set of younger figs was completed and opened to the public.⁸¹

3.9 Civic Centre not a Centre

Despite the plans of those in the first half of the 20th century who first declared this area "Civic Park", much of the commercial activity of Newcastle port and Hunter Street has moved elsewhere. This reduction in the significance of the Civic Precinct began with the change in the role of Newcastle as a port. But the final stage in the process was the loss of the rail link when the railway line was removed and Civic Station closed at the end of 2014.⁸²

Despite this the civic functions have remained strong with the latest additions being the new State Law Courts due to be completed in early 2016. In addition the expansion and construction of Newcastle University's city campus is also adding to the functions surrounding the park. All these will continue to make Civic Park a popular and significant element within the City of Newcastle.

⁷⁸ Morrison, *Newcastle: times past*, p.100.

⁷⁹ *Newcastle Herald*, Dec. 14, 2014 (www.theherald.com.au/story/2762948/)

⁸⁰ *Newcastle Herald*, Jan. 30, 2012 (www.theherald.com.au/story/442634/)

⁸¹ Laman Street, City of Newcastle (www.newcastle.nsw.gov.au/Living/Environment/Trees/Public-Trees/Laman-Street)

⁸² *Newcastle Herald*, December 26th 2014 (www.theherald.com.au/story/2784964/)

CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT PLAN**4. PHYSICAL EVIDENCE - DESCRIPTION OF BUILDINGS AND ITEMS**

The built elements and significant plants on the site have been described in this section. These have been assessed by site investigation of the current state. The inventory in Appendix A assesses each item in more detail.

NOTE: For the purpose of this study, the site was divided into four sections, the western section, eastern section, central axis including the terrace area and the memorial grove. Refer to Figure 3a.

4.1 Memorial Grove

The memorial grove was proposed and donated by three Newcastle Garden Clubs with donations from Newcastle City Council, the Victoria League and the Newcastle District Council of Ex-service Sub Branches. It was designed by the Sydney architect Augustus Alley. In 1961, the memorial grove was dedicated by the Anglican Bishop of Newcastle. The building of this memorial has been cumulative over a number of years and included built memorials and tree planting. The building of the sandstone walls for the memorial grove began in the early 1960s. The largest addition to the grove was in 1967 with the erection of the memorial to the RAAF which is a tapered sandstone column topped with a wedgetail eagle carved by Don Mchattie.

In the same year the Western Suburbs Leagues Club erected a flagpole in the Memorial Grove with a plaque dedicating it to the Newcastle Air Force Association and a year later a wreath in honour of the WAAAF Association. Among other trees within the memorial grove was a Lone Pine planted in 1969 by Newcastle Legacy. This tree was destroyed by a storm in 2015 and the stump retained and associated plaque.

The Memorial Grove is located in the south-east corner of Civic Park. It is accessible from two paths in Laman Street and steps within the park on the north-west as shown in the site plan.

4.2 Central Axis and Sandstone Terrace

The central axis is evident in historic photographs from c 1960 (Aerial view of Civic Park, Hunter Photo bank Reg No. 163001933). This photograph shows a path from the Town Hall to Laman Street which is located to the west of the central axis formed by the facades of the City Hall and War Memorial Cultural Centre.

The central axis is oriented north-south. The southern end commences at the steps at Laman Street, though the visual axis commences at the entry to the War Memorial Cultural Centre. The axis includes the symmetrical steps surrounding the Margel Hinder Fountain (Captain Cook Fountain), the pool and surrounding walls and paving, garden beds and hard paved paths. The southern end is defined by the War Memorial, though the visual axis terminates at the entrance to the City Hall.

The central axis creates a vista through Civic Park that is framed by the buildings at either end.

4.3 Western Section

The section of the park is shown in the 1896 plan as including two sheds and a building to the rear of St Andrews Presbyterian Church that may have been a stable. This area to the north of St Andrew's Presbyterian Church was leased from the AAC by the church for use as a horse paddock and stables.⁸³ The area was also used as a timber yard by Andrew Cooks (destroyed by fire in 1908) prior to 1929 and P.W. Russell and Company, windmill manufacturers.

The first parcels of land that were to make up the future Civic Park were purchased at the western end between King Street and St Andrews in 1929 not for a park but for the purpose of administrative buildings related to Newcastle electricity.⁸⁴ But by 1934 at least, this land seems to have been planted with new trees as part of the first step in the process of creating a park when W. Grant from Sydney's Royal Botanic Gardens prepared a layout for a section of land to the west of what was still a working coal line.⁸⁵ In 1938 two more parcels of land were purchased on the other side of the then Burwood railway line between Laman and King St.⁸⁶ However, it was not until 1958 that Newcastle City Council acquired the remaining coal line allowing these parcels to be continuous.⁸⁷

⁸³ Hunter, *Newcastle Civic and Cultural Precinct Historical Development* (Newcastle City Council, 2002)

⁸⁴ Entertainment Committee, Report of Town Clerk No 24.

⁸⁵ *Laman Street Fig Trees Cooks Hill*, p.9 & Barney, *The first 200 years*, p.77.

⁸⁶ Entertainment Committee, Report of Town Clerk No 24.

⁸⁷ Entertainment Committee, Report of Town Clerk No 24.

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This section of the park may have included a branch line for the AAC which is evident on plan only and no photographic evidence has been found.

In the WWII period the area “opposite the City Hall” was also used for air raid trenches.⁸⁸

The western section is therefore the original section of the park. The built elements within the western section include the Vietnam War Memorial, raised garden beds and paths.

4.4 Eastern Section

This section of the park included a number of warehouses from 1918 to 1960. These included Breckenridge timber yards (damaged by fire in 1929), G.H Varleys engineering workshops (sited here from 1918) and Newcastle fibrous plaster works. In the 1940s a cricket pitch for the Police Citizens Boys Club was located in the central area. In 1945 a building was constructed for music tuition and this was added to in the 1960s. These were located on King Street and are likely to have been demolished when the Newcastle Conservatorium moved into the Salvation Army Peoples Palace on Auckland Street in 1981. In c1960 a large part of the eastern section was hard paved for a car park.

The eastern section of the park was gradually acquired by Newcastle Council. These acquisitions occurred in 1938, 1946, 1947 (refer to Appendix B chronology of acquisitions). It is evident that the use of the land for a civic park was still not planned as in c1960 following these acquisitions a large part of the eastern section was hard paved for a car park, though this proved to be temporary. In 1964 the final parcels adjoining Darby Street were purchased that allowed the whole site between King and Laman Streets and bounded by Darby and Auckland Streets to be envisaged as Civic Park.⁸⁹ It was not until 1979 that Civic Park was dedicated as a Public Reserve.

The built elements within the eastern section include the toilet block, totem poles, raised garden beds and paths.

4.5 Australian Agricultural Company Railway

The land which includes Civic Park today was part of a 2000 acre land grant to the Australian Agricultural Company (AAC) in 1828. The AAC Charter included both an extensive land grant with access to the harbour and mining rights for coal for 30 years.

Railways were built from the loading staithes to the AAC mines and to Hamilton where the AAC opened pits in 1840. This railway is evident in the 1857 map⁹⁰ (figure 3.2) passing along the east of Gibson Street, crossing Auckland Street bisecting today's Civic Park and then crossing Darby Street and over the cutting above King Street connecting to a bridge over Hunter Street and the harbour. The AAC continued to use this line until it was decommissioned in c1920.⁹¹

Another AAC railway line is evident on an 1857 map (figure 3.2)⁹² connecting as a branch line from the AAC line to the Burwood Coal Company line. This is shown as being located on the land which today is the western section of Civic Park. No physical or photographic evidence exists of this line and it may only have been planned and never constructed.

⁸⁸ *Newcastle Morning Herald*, 16th December 1941, p.2. (Credit for pointing this usage out goes to AMAC.)

⁸⁹ Entertainment Committee, Report of Town Clerk No 24 & *Laman Street Fig Trees Cooks Hill*, p.9.

⁹⁰ **1857 plan of Newcastle**, SR Map 4405.

⁹¹ Hunter, *Newcastle Civic and Cultural Precinct*, p7

⁹² **1857 plan of Newcastle**, SR Map 4405.

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Figure 12a
Plan showing the division of the site for the purposes of this study.
source: Six Maps

CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT PLAN**4.6 Burwood Coal and Copper Company Railway**

The Burwood Coal and Copper Company built a line in 1854 which crossed under Laman Street via a tunnel. An Act of Parliament was required to cross the AAC land to carry coal from the Merewether Estate to Newcastle Harbour. A designated corridor was required that included the tunnel in Laman Street and later, in order to form the dog-leg road of Dawson, Laman and Auckland Streets an overbridge was required, retaining walls and earth mounding.⁹³

The Burwood railway tunnel is evident in an 1896 plan (Figure 3.8 1896 plan of Newcastle, Civic Park) showing the retaining walls. The railway line ceased to operate in 1954 and was closed in 1955 and purchased by Newcastle Council in 1958. It is important as the first railway in the colony to transport public passengers⁹⁴

The tunnel and embankment retaining walls are extant, though the tunnel is currently closed.

The railway and signal posts were removed after 1955. These signal posts are evident in an 1889 plan. Until the 1970s the Burwood railway was clearly marked with fig trees and crossed diagonally from the tunnel located today in the south-west of the park and crossed the park to the north-west connecting to Burwood Lane. The diagonal line of the railway is currently defined by the orientation of the storage shed and the steps to Laman Street.

⁹³ Hunter, Newcastle Civic and Cultural Precinct, p10

⁹⁴ Hunter, Newcastle Civic and Cultural Precinct, p10

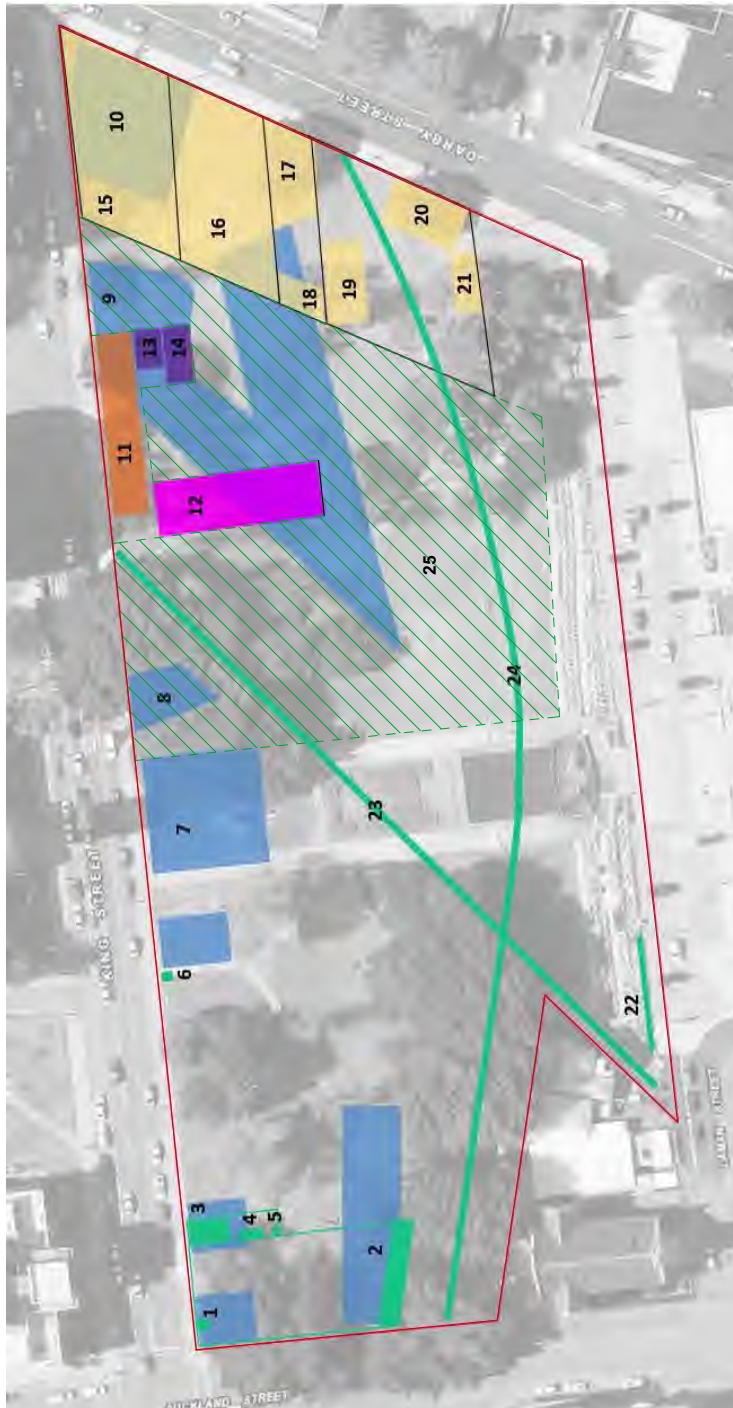
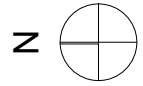


Figure 13a
 Plan showing the historical layers of use of the site.
 source: AMAC Group

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Shed c. 1896
<i>Windmill Manufacturers P.W. Russel & Co. (Likely)</i> 2. Shed c. 1896 (may have been stables)
<i>Garage 1926 (Likely)</i> 3. Outbuilding c. 1896 4. Outbuilding c. 1896 5. Outbuilding c. 1896 6. Outbuilding c. 1896 7. Building c. 1910 8. Building c. 1910 9. Warehouse c. 1910 10. Warehouse c. 1910 11. Music Tuition Building c. 1945 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12. Building c. 1960 13. Likely extension to music tuition
<i>1960's</i> 14. Likely extension to music tuition 15-21. Warehouse c. 1939
<i>Timberyards, G.H. Varley's Engineering Workshops, Newcastle Fibrous Plaster Works. This applies to 15-21.</i> 22. Stone retaining wall c. 1896 23. Burwood Coal Co. line
<i>1854-1954</i> 24. AAC. line 1840's-1920 25. Car Park c. 1960 |
|--|--|

CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT PLAN**5. ARCHAEOLOGY- Summary – Refer to Appendix E for report on Archaeology**

Prepared by Archaeological Management and Consulting Group.

Results*Archaeology: National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974*

A combined review of the current legislative framework (Appendix E, Section 1.5.1), previous Aboriginal archaeological studies surrounding the study site (Appendix E, Section 1.6.1) and a comprehensive AHIMS search (Appendix E, Section 2.1) was undertaken to assess the Aboriginal archaeological potential of the Civic Park site. Assessment of the data available, in association with current guidelines, has determined that areas of moderate to high archaeological potential are possible within undisturbed parts of the study area. The likelihood of any development to impact undisturbed Aboriginal objects or deposits will need to be assessed at the appropriate level by a suitably qualified archaeologist.

Archaeology: Heritage Act 1977

In its legislative framework (Appendix E, Section 1.5.2), Civic Park is listed on the State Heritage Inventory (SHI) and on the Newcastle Local Environment Plan as Item I430. In both instances the park is considered to hold local significance, but that significance is primarily vested in its function as a modern park in the Newcastle city centre. Its historical association with the AAC and Burwood lines is of secondary consideration on the State Heritage Inventory.

Assessment of the existing historical documentation surrounding Civic Park (Appendix E, Section 3.0) provides a broad estimate of areas of archaeological potential in so far as a summary of the research available to date. In this document forms an overlay of the available historical plans, locating all structures and potential known archaeological features, as well as dividing Civic Park into four areas (A, B, C, D) related to the historical use of the land. Concerning the preliminary assessment of archaeological potential:

- Area A is considered to have moderate to high archaeological potential.
- Area B is considered to have low archaeological potential.
- Area C is considered to have high archaeological potential.
- Area D is considered to have low archaeological potential.

While a preliminary potential archaeological significance of the site has been broadly identified in this document (Section 4.0), in order to assess the significance of Civic Park's historical archaeology to a standard acceptable by the Heritage Division, a full archaeological assessment would be required.

Recommendations*Archaeology: National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974*

In view of surrounding landscape features present, which do indicate that sub-surface Aboriginal objects with potential conservation value may be present, the following has been recommended:

- Any future development that has the potential to disturb the ground surface that is not classified as an exempt or low impact activity (DECCW 2010), or involves impact deemed to be trivial or negligible, will need as a minimum a due diligence archaeological assessment in accordance with the Due Diligence Code of Practice for the Protection of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales, Part 6 National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974, (DECCW 2010).
- Any recommendations arising from this level of assessment should conform to the relevant Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) guidelines and standards (see Appendix E, Section 1.5.1).

Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessments including consultation (in accordance with Due Diligence Code of Practice for the Protection of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales, Part 6 National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974, DECCW 2010), archaeological test excavation (in accordance with Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales, Part 6 National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974, DECCW 2010), salvage excavation and AHIPs are all possible outcomes from assessment and may be required for development within Civic Park, Newcastle.

CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT PLAN*Archaeology: Heritage Act 1977*

Recommendations for future action concerning any proposed developments at Civic Park and impacts to the historical archaeological record have been provided in a table format in Appendix E, Section 5.2. Recommendations are based on the overview of current research pertaining to archaeological potential in Civic Park and the potential significance of that archaeology in terms of the NSW Heritage Act 1977. Broadly speaking, based on the archaeological potential of the identified areas (A, B, C, D) and potential range of significance, an archaeological assessment may be required depending on the proposed impacts and location of future developments at Civic Park.

CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT PLAN**6. STATUTORY HERITAGE LISTING AND GUIDELINES****6.1 Newcastle Local Environmental Plan 2012 (Newcastle LEP 2012)**

The site has been recognised as significant within the history of Newcastle and in its listing in the Newcastle LEP 2012 Schedule 5 as an item of local significance. The item is also located within a conservation area. This is an extract from the LEP 2012, Schedule 5:

<i>Civic Park</i>	<i>201 King Street</i>	<i>Lot 300, DP 604071; Lot 91, DP 521033</i>	<i>Local</i>	<i>1430</i>
<i>Newcastle City Centre Heritage Conservation Area</i>	<i>Shown by a heavy red line and marked "Newcastle City Centre Heritage Conservation Area—C4"</i>		<i>Local</i>	

Heritage items in the vicinity of Civic Park:

<i>Former railway overpass</i>	<i>Laman Street</i>		<i>Local</i>	<i>186</i>
<i>Newcastle War Memorial Cultural Centre</i>	<i>1 Laman Street</i>	<i>Lots 4–10, DP 1122031</i>	<i>Local</i>	<i>187</i>
<i>Former signalman's cottage</i>	<i>12 Laman Street</i>	<i>Lot 12, DP 150135</i>	<i>Local</i>	<i>188</i>
<i>St Andrew's Presbyterian Church</i>	<i>12 Laman Street</i>	<i>Lot 1011, DP 1132786</i>	<i>Local</i>	<i>189</i>
<i>Baptist Tabernacle</i>	<i>25 Laman Street</i>	<i>Lot 1, DP 1134280</i>	<i>Local</i>	<i>190</i>
<i>Northumberland County Council Building</i>	<i>20 Auckland Street</i>	<i>Lot A, DP 369052; Part Lot 1, DP 999494</i>	<i>Local</i>	<i>1359</i>
<i>City Hall and lamp posts</i>	<i>290 King Street</i>	<i>Part Lot 1, DP 225689</i>	<i>State nominated</i>	<i>1433</i>
<i>Christie Place (including fountain)</i>	<i>292 King Street</i>	<i>Part Lot 1, DP 225689</i>	<i>Local</i>	<i>1434</i>
<i>Nesca House</i>	<i>300 King Street</i>	<i>Lot 2, DP 225689</i>	<i>State</i>	<i>1435</i>

6.2 Newcastle Development Control Plan 2012 (Newcastle DCP 2012)

All proposed new work to the listed heritage items which include the grounds will need to apply the guidelines of the Newcastle DCP 2012. The relevant sections of the DCP are:

Section 5.04 Aboriginal Heritage

Section 5.05 Heritage Items

Section 5.06 Archaeological Management

Section 5.07 Heritage Conservation Areas

6.3 Archaeological Statutory Controls

Refer to Appendix E, Section 1.5 for details of Archaeological statutory requirements.

CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT PLAN**7. ASSESSMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE****7.1 Historic Themes****7.1.1 National, State and Local Themes**

NSW Heritage Council (NSW Historical Themes, October 2001) has developed themes to provide a framework for historical research and for the purposes of comparative analysis.

NATIONAL	STATE	LOCAL
<i>Civic Park</i>		
Peopling Australia	Aboriginal cultures and interactions with other cultures	Activities associated with maintaining, developing, experiencing and remembering Aboriginal cultural identities and practises, past and present; with demonstrating distinctive ways of life; and with interactions demonstrating race relations.
Developing local, regional and national economies	Industry	Factory, workshop, depot, industrial machinery, timber mill, quarry, private railway or wharf, shipbuilding yard, slipway, blacksmithy, cannery, foundry, kiln, smelter, tannery, brewery, factory office
	Mining	Activities associated with the identification, extraction, processing and distribution of mineral ores, precious stones and other such inorganic substances.
	Transport	Activities associated with the moving of people and goods from one place to another, and systems for the provision of such movements
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
	Land tenure	Activities and processes for identifying forms of ownership and occupancy of land and water, both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal
Marking the phases of life	Persons	Activities of, and associations with, identifiable individuals, families and communal groups
Building settlements, towns and cities	Towns, suburbs and villages	Archaeological Resource: Urban Development, 1853 onwards

CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT PLAN**7.2 Assessment of Significance**

The heritage significance of Civic Park is assessed using the standardised evaluation criteria developed by the NSW Heritage Office *Assessing Heritage Significance*, July 2001.

Historical Significance

Criterion (a) - *an item is important in the course, or pattern, of the NSW's cultural or natural history (or the cultural or natural history of the local area);*

The land which today is Civic Park has a layered history of use. It is a part of the extensive AAC land grant from 1828 and was traversed by a railway to transport coal from the pits at Hamilton to the staithe in the harbour. The documentary evidence of the AAC railway and the associated infrastructure are an important part of this layered history from c1840 until the decommissioning of the line in 1920.

The industrial use of the land is a record of the development of Newcastle and the transition from a coal town largely in the ownership of the AAC to an industrial city. This land and the documentary evidence record these uses from the ownership of the AAC, leasing for other uses and then the gradual acquisition by Newcastle City Council. The western section of the land was used as timber yards by and Andrew Cook and Windmill Manufacturers, P.W. Russell and Co. prior to 1929. The eastern section of the site continued to be used for industry until the 1960s. These uses included Breckenridge timber yards and G.H Varleys' engineering workshops and Newcastle fibrous plaster works.

Particularly important in the history of the site is the Burwood Coal and Copper Company and the associated infrastructure including the tunnel and overbridge at Laman Street and the railway line that traversed the land. The documentary evidence records that in 1850 an Act of Parliament was required to cross the AAC land to carry coal from Mitchell's Merewether Estate to Newcastle Harbour. The railway was used by the Burwood Coal and Copper Company until its demise and then was used by later coal companies from the Burwood Estate until 1955. It is also important as the first railway in the colony to transport public passengers.

Civic Park is a record of the development of the civic centre of Newcastle from 1929. The transition of the land from an industrial site to a civic park is recorded in the gradual acquisition of land by Newcastle Council. This acquisition began in 1921 with land adjoining the Burwood Estate railway purchased for a railway siding. The beginning of a park was initiated when the western section of the land was acquired by Newcastle Council in 1929, though intended by Council for building, by 1934 the western section is evident as a park that was designed by W. Grant from Sydney's Botanical Gardens. Further acquisitions followed in 1938, 1946, 1947 in the eastern section the park. In 1958 the Burwood Estate railway line was purchased and hence the land was no longer traversed by a train line. It is evident that the use of the land for a civic park was still not planned as in c1960 following these acquisitions a large part of the eastern section was hard paved for a car park, though this proved to be temporary. At the same time, in 1961, the Memorial Grove was planned, the terraced stone walls along Laman Street, rose gardens on the central axis and a competition announced for a fountain. In 1964 the final parcels adjoining Darby Street were purchased that allowed the whole site between King St and Laman St, bounded by Darby and Auckland Streets to be envisaged as Civic Park. It was not until 1979 that Civic Park was dedicated as a Public Reserve.

The park and surrounding buildings record the development of the civic context, as the AAC sold their land allowing the expansion of the city of Newcastle. The civic ideal was initiated by the building of the Town Hall, in 1929 later known as the City Hall, followed in 1957 by the War Memorial Cultural Centre. Other buildings that surround the park include NESCA House, 1939, Newcastle Council Administration buildings, The Salvation Army Hostel, known as the People's Palace, 1928 and the Newcastle Art Gallery in 1977. The change of use of surrounding buildings has reinforced the civic centre with the park central to this use. This includes the new use of the Peoples Palace for use by the Conservatorium of Music in 1981, the building of an adjacent auditorium in 1988 and reuse of NESCA House as a part of University of Newcastle in 1992.

If evidence is found that the World War 2 emergency air raid trench existed on the study site, it has potential to add to the historic record as there is no photographic evidence.

The evolution of the tree canopy in Civic Park contributes to cultural significance. The cultural plantings primarily *Ficus macrocarpa hillii* dating from the early 1930s, form strong boundaries to Civic Park along the St Andrews Cathedral and Auckland Street boundaries. More recent plantings of *Ficus macrocarpa hillii* along the eastern end of the King Street boundary as well as along Darby Street were planted in 2001 and 2002 and reflect the intent to continue the *Ficus macrocarpa hillii* plantings across Civic Park.

Other specimens which are evident in the park since the 1940s include larger trees in the park such as *Harpephyllum caffrum* Wild Plum and *Araucaria heterophylla* Norfolk Island Pine both evident in historic imagery

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from 1949. A 1979 vegetation plan shows a large range of trees in particular *Eucalyptus robusta* which was planted as part of closely spaced avenues along significant paths. Other specimen trees such as *Dracena draco*, *Lagunaria patersonia* and *Populus canadensis* Golden Poplar were all planted in the 1970s and reflect the embellishment of the tree canopy. In a 1990 vegetation plan, the same canopy is evident. In 2005, the number of trees were recorded at 96. Since then the tree numbers have diminished by 44% to a total of 54. The loss of trees could potentially diminish historic cultural 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 cultural or natural history of the local area);*

Civic Park is associated with the sculptor Margel Hinder who designed the Civic Park Fountain in 1961 now known as the Captain James Cook Memorial Fountain.

Civic Park is associated with W. Grant from the Sydney Botanical Gardens who designed the western section of the park in c1929.

The memorial grove is associated with Augustus Alley, an architect who designed this section of Civic Park in c1961. Also within the memorial grove is the memorial to the RAAF which was designed by the sculptor Don Mchattie in 1967.

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 the local area);*

The fountain designed by Margel Hinder is of exceptional significance in its form, craftsmanship and siting. It is an aspiring abstract work of art that creates a sense of place in Civic Park.

The siting of Civic Park is significant within a civic centre, framed by buildings, most importantly the City Hall and the War Memorial Cultural Centre that reinforce the central axis and create an enclosed civic space with openings that form vistas. The natural raised ground level at Laman Street allows for grand double stair, terraces and fountain with a central axis which is representative of classical garden design.

The aesthetic significance of Civic Park has been diminished by the loss of mature trees.

Aesthetic significance applies to the whole tree canopy and the contribution that groups of trees or all the trees make to the beautification of the park and its importance as a cultural landmark in the centre of Newcastle.

The tree plantings in Civic Park are significant to the setting and character of the park. The cultural plantings of *Ficus microcarpa* 'hillii' some remnant from 1930s plantings contribute strongly to the character and aesthetic qualities of the park. The boundary plantings along Auckland Street and St Andrews Cathedral and the remnant alignment of the Burwood St Railway line plantings provides a strong backdrop to the western section of the park and contribute to the aesthetics of Civic Park as a whole.

Many of the individual specimens on site are mature with impressive stature as plantings such as the *Araucaria heterophylla* and *Harphephyllum caffrum* and plantings of *Dracena draco*. These trees contribute to localised views across the park and form an important part of individual settings. The plantings in the Memorial Grove form a close backdrop to the monuments and water features creating a distinct setting with limited visual connections to the rest of the park.

Social Significance

Criterion (d) - *an item has strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group in NSW (or the local area) for social, cultural or spiritual reasons;*

Civic Park is esteemed by the local and Newcastle community and includes the workers in the city who use this park and value the open space, trees, Captain James Cook Memorial Fountain and memorials including the Memorial Grove, World War memorial, Vietnam memorial and individual memorial plaques and benches throughout the park.

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The study area may have cultural significance to the Aboriginal community which can only be ascertained by consultation with the contemporary community.

The local community identifies strongly with trees in Civic Park due to their strong presence in the centre of Newcastle. Plantings in and around Memorial Grove will have significance to the families of those memorialised as the plantings are part of the setting and provide a private place for viewing the memorials.

Technical Significance

Criterion (e) - *an item has potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of NSW's cultural or natural history (or the cultural or natural history of the local area);*

Archaeological Significance: National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974

It is important to note that this conservation management plan describes only the archaeological potential of the study area. It is acknowledged that if after further archaeological assessment, the study area has little or no archaeological potential, the study area may still have cultural significance to the Aboriginal community which can only be ascertained by consultation with said community.

The Hunter River currently lies approximately 360m to the north of the study area. This distance may have been as little as 80m prior to European settlement. The Hunter River and an unnamed creek shown to be less than 200m to the north (AMAC, 2013) are considered higher order streams. Archaeological sites will be larger, more complex and have a relatively higher density the closer they are to permanent fresh water (Kohen 1986), along with regularly exploitable food resources. Sites with ephemeral water sources or those which are located in the vicinity of the headwaters of upper tributaries (first order streams) have a sparse distribution and density (McDonald 1992). The study area may contain artefacts that are representative of concentrated and repeated Aboriginal occupation. The study area has potential to contain Aboriginal objects of conservation value within undisturbed sections. There also remains the potential for disturbed Aboriginal archaeological remains to be present in the study area which may be of interest to the Aboriginal community.

Areas of moderate to high archaeological potential are possible within undisturbed parts of the study area.

Archaeological Significance: Heritage Act 1977

The site has potential significance as it could reveal evidence of the use of the site by the AAC and the Burwood Coal and Copper Company. It is also significant as the site could potentially contribute to an understanding of the historical use of the area – particularly if heavy industry took place there and the archaeology demonstrates greater activity than the existing records suggest.

As a relatively late development in terms of the age of the settlement at Newcastle, the individual structures and associated deposits themselves are not considered likely to meet the threshold for local level archaeological significance. However, taken as a group, if the remains survive intact on a large scale, then the industrial area could be said to represent a short-lived trend in the pattern of development of the city of Newcastle. If extensive structural remains were discovered associated with extensive deposition then this could potentially reveal information that contributes to the historical understanding on Newcastle's development.

Rarity

Criterion (f) - *an item possesses uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of New South Wales' cultural or natural places; or cultural or natural environments (or a class of the local area)*

The Captain Cook Memorial Fountain is a rare example of the work of a 1960s abstract designed fountain. It is a grander example of the work of Margel Hinder in comparison to the other known extant example of her work at the Reserve Bank in Martin Place Sydney.

Representative

Criterion (g) - *an item is important in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of NSW's cultural or natural places; or cultural or natural environments (or a class of the local area)*

Civic Park is representative of a civic park in its location framed by civic buildings. It is a 1960s landscape design and representative of the Modernist Classical revival style in its symmetrical plan with central axis, abstract fountain, raised terraced gardens and grand stair. The axial placement of the stripped Classical Revival style War

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Memorial Cultural Centre and the Classical Revival City Hall reinforces the Classical style of the park in the symmetrical planning.

7.3 Statement of Significance

The land which today is Civic Park has a layered history of use. The Hunter River lies approximately 360 metres to the north of Civic Park and this distance may have been as little as 80m prior to European settlement. Settlement, sediments and reclamation events have dramatically changed the shorelines of the Hunter River estuary. The site has archaeological potential, although not visible on the surface, there may be Aboriginal objects or deposits representative of repeated and concentrated occupation of the Aboriginal nations who have occupied the area for up to 15,000 years at considerable depths. If present, these deposits may be locally or regionally significant.

Civic Park is historically important as a part of the extensive AAC land grant from 1828 and was traversed by a railway to transport coal from the pits at Hamilton to the staithes in the harbour. The documentary evidence of the AAC railway and the associated infrastructure are an important part of this layered history from c1840 until the decommissioning of the line in 1920. Any archaeological evidence of the AAC use of the site has potential state significance.

The industrial use of the land is a record of the development of Newcastle and the transition from a coal town largely in the ownership of the AAC to an industrial city. This land and the documentary evidence record these uses from the ownership of the AAC, leasing for other uses and then the gradual acquisition by Newcastle City Council. The western section of the land was used as timber yards by and Andrew Cook and Windmill Manufacturers, P.W. Russell and Co. prior to 1929. The eastern section of the park continued to be used for industry until the 1960s. These uses included Breckenridge timber yards and G.H Varleys engineering workshops and Newcastle fibrous plaster works. Any archaeological evidence of these early industrial uses of the site has potential local to state significance.

Particularly important in the history of the site is the Burwood Coal and Copper Company and the associated infrastructure including the tunnel and overbridge at Laman Street and the railway line that traversed the land. The documentary evidence records that in 1850 an Act of Parliament was required to cross the AAC land to carry coal from Mitchell's Merewether Estate to Newcastle Harbour. The railway was used by the Burwood Coal and Copper Company until its demise and then was used by later coal companies from the Burwood Estate until 1955. It is also important as the first railway in the colony to transport public passengers. The Burwood Coal and Copper Company tunnel and overpass are of exceptional significance at a State level. Any archaeological evidence of the Burwood Coal and Copper Company has potential state significance.

The park and surrounding buildings record the development of the civic context, as the AAC sold their land allowing the expansion of the city of Newcastle. The civic ideal was initiated by the building of the Town Hall, in 1929 later known as the City Hall, followed in 1957 by the War Memorial Cultural Centre. The transition of the land from an industrial site to a civic park is recorded in the gradual acquisition of land by Newcastle Council. The beginning of a park was initiated when the western section of the land was acquired by Newcastle Council in 1929 and by 1934 the western section is evident as a park that was designed by W. Grant from Sydney's Royal Botanical Gardens. In 1958 the Burwood Estate railway line was purchased and hence the land was no longer traversed by a train line. It is evident that the use of the land for a civic park was still not planned as in c1960 following these acquisitions a large part of the eastern section was hard paved for a car park. In 1961, the Memorial Grove was planned, the terraced stone walls along Laman Street, rose gardens on the central axis and a competition announced for a fountain. These 1960s alterations to the park are assessed as being of high significance at a local level. In 1964 the final parcels adjoining Darby Street were purchased that allowed the whole site bound by King, Laman, Darby and Auckland Streets to be envisaged as a Civic Park. Finally, in 1979, Civic Park was dedicated as a Public Reserve by the State, confirming its recreational value for the local community, and Council custodianship.

The development of the park is recorded by the evolution of the tree canopy, primarily *Ficus macrocarpa hillii* dating from the early 1930s, surviving from the Burwood Coal and Copper Company railway alignment and along the St Andrews Cathedral and Auckland Street boundaries. These *Ficus macrocarpa hillii* are of high significance at a local level. Other specimens which are evident in the park since the 1940s include *larger trees in the park* such as *Harpephyllum caffrum* Wild Plum and *Araucaria heterophylla* Norfolk Island Pine both evident in historic imagery from 1949. These 1940s specimens are of moderate to high significance respectively at a local level.

The fountain designed by Margel Hinder is of exceptional aesthetic significance in its sculptural form, craftsmanship and siting. It creates a sense of place in Civic Park, and from this a central axis extends in a north-south orientation framed on either side by the City Hall and the War Memorial Cultural Centre. The natural raised

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ground level at Laman Street allows for a grand double stair and terraces and from this height there are views over the extent of the park to City Hall. The fountain is of exceptional significance at a state level.

The tree canopy over the whole park and the groups of trees are important to the aesthetic significance of the park. The *Ficus microcarpa* 'hillii', some remnant from 1930s plantings contribute strongly to the park. The boundary plantings along Auckland Street and St Andrews Cathedral and the remnant alignment of the Burwood Coal Company Railway alignment provide a backdrop to the western section of the park. Many of the individual specimens on site are mature with impressive stature such as the *Araucaria heterophylla* and *Harphephyllum caffrum* and *Dracena draco*. These trees contribute to views within the park. The plants in the memorial grove form a close backdrop to the monuments and water features creating an enclosed setting.

Civic Park is esteemed by the local and Newcastle community and includes the workers in the city who use this park and value the open space, trees, Captain James Cook Memorial Fountain and memorials including the memorial grove, World War memorial, Vietnam War memorial and individual memorial plaques and benches throughout the park. Civic Park as a whole is assessed as being of high significance at a local level.

Civic Park may have cultural significance to the Aboriginal community which can only be ascertained by consultation with the contemporary community.

The local community value the trees in Civic Park due to their strong visual dominance in the centre of Newcastle. Plants in and around memorial grove will have significance to the families of those memorialised as these are part of the setting and provide a private place for viewing the memorials.

7.4 Level of Significance

The levels of significance for Civic Park as a whole complex and the main built items are summarised below:

Item	Criteria	Significance Level
Civic Park	Historical	Local
	Aesthetic	Local
	Social	Local
	Technical	
	Archaeological	Potential Local or State
	Representative	Local
Captain James Cook Memorial Fountain	Historical	State
	Aesthetic	State
	Social	Local
	Technical	na
	Rare	State
Laman Street Tunnel and Overpass	Historical	State
	Aesthetic	Requires further assessment
	Social	Local
	Technical	Requires further assessment
	Representative	Requires further assessment
	Rare	Requires further assessment

CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT PLAN**7.5 Rating of Significance**

The rating/grading of significance is based on the assessment of integrity of each item on the site.

For a more detailed assessment of the ratings of significance for Civic Park and its parts refer to Appendix A.

The management recommendations for each rating of significance are contained in Section 10

The ratings are based on the grading of the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage:⁹⁵

Gradings	Justification	Comment Regarding Status
Exceptional	Rare or outstanding element directly contributing to an item's local or State significance	Fulfils criteria for local or State listing.
High	High degree of original fabric. Demonstrates a key element of the item's significance	Fulfils criteria for local or State listing.
Moderate	Altered or modified elements. Elements with little heritage value, but which contribute to the overall significance of the item.	Fulfils criteria for local or State listing.
Little	New buildings, items and alterations that do not contribute to significance of Civic Park site. New work that results in difficulty interpreting significance of Civic Park site.	Does not fulfil criteria for local or State listing.
Intrusive	Damaging to the item's heritage significance.	Does not fulfil criteria for local or State listing.

⁹⁵ Dept of Planning, Assessing Heritage Significance, July 2001

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Location	Item	Date of fabric	Significance	
Civic Park	Civic Park	Civic park as a whole	variable	High
		Evidence of AAC Railway	1828	Exceptional archaeological potential
	C4	Evidence of Burwood Coal and Copper Company Railway	1854	Exceptional archaeological potential
Central Axis				
	C1	Captain James Cook Memorial Fountain Including all original fabric including off-form concrete balustrades and concrete pool surrounds.	1966	Exceptional
	C1	Paving to stairs, landings and paths in fountain area	2005	Little
	C1	Balustrades and new walls in fountain area	2005	Little
	C1	Retaining walls to terrace in fountain area	1960s	High
	C2	War Memorial - obelisk	1951, 2003	High
	C7	Paving to axis path	Post-1960	Little
Terrace				
	C3	Retaining walls	1961	High
	C3	Paving	unknown	Little
	C3 5,6,7,8	Seats	recent	Little
Plants in Terrace Area		General Planting: Trachelospermum jasminoides, Nandina domestica, Hebe, Phormium species		Little
South-west section of Terrace				
	C4	Overbridge and Tunnel -Burwood Coal and Copper Company	1854	Exceptional
	C5	Stairs to Laman Street and surrounds in vicinity of tunnel	post- 1958	Little - Intrusive
	C6	Storage Sheds and Water Tanks	Post-1958	Intrusive
Memorial Grove	-	The Memorial Grove as a whole	1961	High
	E1	Sandstone retaining walls	1961	High
	0	Sandstone stairs and fender walls and memorial plaques to fender walls	1961	High
	0	Balustrade	Post- 1961	Intrusive
	0	Paving surrounds to stairs	unknown	Little

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		Paving within memorial grove	unknown	Little
	1-12, 14-19, 20-24, 25-29 32-38, 40-48, 52-54	Memorials	variable	High
	13	Flagpole – Newcastle Air Force Association	1967	High
	Seat 1 Seat 2 Seat 3	Seats	Recent	Little
	30	Legacy Tree stump and plaque	1966	High
	31	Fountain and Memorial Pool	1961	High
	39	Stone and timber seat and memorial plaque - The Victoria League (Newcastle Branch) War Workers Register	Post WWII	High
	49	Item 49 - Anchor - In Memory of those naval personnel lost in World War I and World War II and In Vietnam	Post 1972	High
	50	Vietnam War Memorial	Post 1972	High
	51	Australian Women's Army Service	Post 1947	High
	55	RAAF Memorial	1967	High
	Tree 88	<i>Waterhousia floribunda</i> – Weeping Lilly Pilly		Little
	Tree 95	<i>Agonis flexuosa</i> – West Australian Willow Myrtle		Moderate
Eastern Section	E0	Park Sign	Recent	Little
	E0	Memorial Plaque	1984	Moderate
	E1	Garden Walls	c1961	Little
	E2	Toilet Block	unknown	Intrusive
	E3-5	Totems	unknown	Little
	E3 - 5	Paving in vicinity of totems	unknown	Moderate
	E6	Park Furniture	unknown	Little
	E7	Park Furniture – Bench Seating	unknown	Intrusive
	E8	Park Furniture – Bench Seating - Memorial to Lillie Wood	c2007	Moderate
	E9	Park Furniture – Bench Seating - Memorial to E.H. Whalan	unknown	Moderate
	E10	Vent Pipe	unknown	Intrusive
		Paths and paving	unknown	Little
Plants in Eastern Section	Trees 93	<i>Dracena draco</i> - Dragon Trees x 3	unknown	Moderate

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	Tree 59, 71, 73, 78, 79, 80	<i>Ficus microcarpa var. hillii</i> – Hills Weeping Fig	2001-2005	Moderate
	Tree 54	<i>Eucalyptus globulus</i> – Southern Blue Gum		Little
	Tree 57	<i>Eucalyptus sp.</i> – Ironbark		Moderate
	Trees 61, 85	<i>Lagunaria patersonia</i> – Norfolk Island Hibiscus		Little
	Tree 64	<i>Callistemon viminalis</i> – Weeping Bottlebrush		Little
	Tree 63	<i>Agonis flexuosa</i> – West Australian Willow Myrtle		Moderate
	Tree 69	<i>Populus x canadensis</i> – Hybrid Black Poplar		Moderate
	Tree 58	<i>Melaleuca leucadendra</i> – Weeping Paperbark		Little
	Tree 76	<i>Magnolia grandiflora</i> – Bull-bay Magnolia		Little
	Tree 84	<i>Decussocarpus falcatus</i> – Oteniqua		Moderate
	Tree 87, 89, 94	<i>Melaleuca quinquenervia</i> – Broad-leafed Paper-bark		Moderate
	Tree 36	<i>Ficus microcarpa var.hillii</i> - Hills Weeping Fig	1923	High
	Trees 38,42, 47,49,50, 52	Swamp Mahogany – <i>Eucalyptus robusta</i>	1970s	Little
	Trees 29 and 39	<i>Harpephyllum caffrum</i> – Wild Plum	Tree 29 – pre- 1945 39 – c1945	Moderate
Western Section	W1	Vietnam War Memorial	1987	High
	W2	Memorial Plaque	1961	Moderate
	W3	Fences	recent	Intrusive
	W4	Raised garden beds and sandstone walls	unknown	Little
	W4	Bench Seats	recent	Little
		Paths and paving	unknown	Little
Plants in Western Section				
	Trees 7 and 10	<i>Ficus microcarpa var.hillii</i> - Hills Weeping Fig	C1936	High
	Trees 11, 12, 13	<i>Ficus microcarpa var.hillii</i> - Hills Weeping Fig	1923	High

CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT PLAN

	Trees 19, 20, 23 and 26	Swamp Mahogany – <i>Eucalyptus robusta</i>	1970s	Little
	Tree 15	<i>Araucaria heterophylla</i> - Norfolk Island Pine	Before 1939	High
	Tree 16	<i>Jacaranda mimosaeifolia</i>		Little
	Tree 17	<i>Cinnamomum camphorum</i> - Camphor laurel	Pre-1979	Moderate
	Tree 27	<i>Populus Italica 'Nigra'</i> - Lombardy Poplar		Little
	Tree 18 and 28	<i>Populus deltoidies</i> - Cottonwood	Pre-1950	Moderate
	Trees 29	<i>Harpephyllum caffrum</i> – Wild Plum	Tree 29 – before 1945	Moderate
	Tree 30	<i>Allocasuarina littoralis</i> – Black She Oak		Little
	Raised garden bed	General Planting: <i>Monostera deliciosa</i> , <i>Clivia minata</i> , <i>Canna</i> spp. Various ground covers		Intrusive

CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT PLAN**8. ASSESSMENT OF THE HERITAGE CURTILAGE**

The methodology described in Heritage Curtilages, published by the Department of Planning, for defining the curtilage of a heritage place, refers to the NSW Heritage Manual 1996 and to James Semple Kerr, The Conservation Plan, 1990. The Heritage Curtilages document recommends that a curtilage can only be defined after heritage significance is established and that background research should identify and make recommendations on:

- historic land subdivision patterns
- archaeological features
- visual, historical and functional links with important features in the area
- setting, views and landmark qualities

These guidelines also recommend that the heritage curtilage must be of sufficient extent to contain all the elements contributing to the heritage significance of the place and that the curtilage “may not necessarily coincide with the property boundary”.

Four types of heritage curtilage are defined:

- **Lot Boundary Curtilage**

Most suburban dwellings fit this case

- **Reduced Curtilage**

This arises where the significance of an item may not depend on the total lot.

- **Expanded Curtilage**

There are many instances (ie The Sydney Opera House) in which the curtilage may have to be greater than the lot boundary to secure adequate interpretation of the place/item.

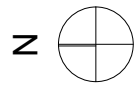
- **Composite Curtilage**

This curtilage type is one made up of a number of individual curtilages. It generally applies to historic precincts that have a range of items which have a distinctive homogenous character.

8.1 Curtilage of Civic Park

The curtilage of Civic Park is the lot boundary, including the Signalman’s Cottage and the Burwood Coal and Copper Company tunnel and overbridge. This includes the lot boundary of Civic Park (Lot 300 in Deposited Plan 604071, Lot 11 in DP 1098216, Lots 2 and 5 in DP 95186, Lot 8 in DP 150031 and Lot 91 in DP 521033.) The curtilage also includes the Signalman’s Cottage (Lot 12 DP150135) and the Burwood Coal and Copper Company tunnel and overbridge (Land no 121995, 9999 Laman St CH 2300, RD 20781, NCC).

The curtilage is shown in figure 5a.



CURTILAGE PLAN

Curtilage

Figure 14a
Plan showing curtilage of site
source: Six Maps

CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT PLAN**9. OPPORTUNITIES AND CONSTRAINTS****9.1 Discussion of the Assessment of Significance**

The Statement of Heritage Significance in Section 7.3 is a summary of the significance of Civic Park as a part of the history of development of Newcastle City. The Statement of Significance should be read in order to understand these conservation policy recommendations.

9.2 Opportunities and Constraints arising from the Assessment of Significance

Civic Park is important in the history of NSW and Newcastle and these values should be protected as an historical record of the layers of history.

Refer to Section 7.2 Assessment of Significance and Section 7.3 Statement of Significance.

9.3 Newcastle Local Environmental Plan 2012 (Newcastle LEP 2012)

The site has been recognised as significant within the history of Newcastle in its listing in the Newcastle LEP 2012 Schedule 5 as an item of local significance. The item is also located with the Newcastle City Centre Heritage Conservation Area. This is an extract from the LEP 2012, Schedule 5:

<i>Civic Park</i>	<i>201 King Street</i>	<i>Lot 300, DP 604071; Lot 91, DP 521033</i>	<i>Local</i>	<i>1430</i>
<i>Newcastle City Centre Heritage Conservation Area</i>	<i>Shown by a heavy red line and marked "Newcastle City Centre Heritage Conservation Area—C4"</i>		<i>Local</i>	

All proposed new work on these items within the vicinity of Civic Park will require a statement of heritage impact to assess the impact on Civic Park.

Heritage items in the vicinity of Civic Park:

<i>Former railway overpass</i>	<i>Laman Street</i>		<i>Local</i>	<i>186</i>
<i>Newcastle War Memorial Cultural Centre</i>	<i>1 Laman Street</i>	<i>Lots 4–10, DP 1122031</i>	<i>Local</i>	<i>187</i>
<i>Former signalman's cottage</i>	<i>12 Laman Street</i>	<i>Lot 12, DP 150135</i>	<i>Local</i>	<i>188</i>
<i>St Andrew's Presbyterian Church</i>	<i>12 Laman Street</i>	<i>Lot 1011, DP 1132786</i>	<i>Local</i>	<i>189</i>
<i>Baptist Tabernacle</i>	<i>25 Laman Street</i>	<i>Lot 1, DP 1134280</i>	<i>Local</i>	<i>190</i>
<i>Northumberland County Council Building</i>	<i>20 Auckland Street</i>	<i>Lot A, DP 369052; Part Lot 1, DP 999494</i>	<i>Local</i>	<i>1359</i>
<i>City Hall and lamp posts</i>	<i>290 King Street</i>	<i>Part Lot 1, DP 225689</i>	<i>State nominated</i>	<i>1433</i>
<i>Christie Place (including fountain)</i>	<i>292 King Street</i>	<i>Part Lot 1, DP 225689</i>	<i>Local</i>	<i>1434</i>
<i>Nesca House</i>	<i>300 King Street</i>	<i>Lot 2, DP 225689</i>	<i>State</i>	<i>1435</i>

9.4 Archaeological Statutory Controls

Refer to Appendix E, Section 1.5 for details of Archaeological statutory requirements.

CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT PLAN**9.5 Non-statutory Constraints****9.5.1 The Burra Charter, 2013**

The Burra Charter defines the best conservation practice, principles and procedures that should be followed in looking after important places. An explanation of this document is contained in Section 2.2

The conservation policy in this CMP includes detailed recommendations on conservation of the place and the fabric. These policies are based on the Burra Charter, 2013. The Burra Charter, Article 1, provides the following definitions:

- **Conservation** means all the processes of looking after a place so as to retain its cultural significance.
- **Maintenance** means the continuous protective care of a place, and its setting.
Maintenance is to be distinguished from repair which involves restoration and reconstruction.
- **Preservation** means maintaining a place in its existing state and retarding deterioration.
- **Restoration** means returning a place to a known earlier state by removing accretions or by reassembling existing elements 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.
- **Adaptation** means changing a place to suit the existing use or a proposed use.

Adaptation is further defined in Article 21 of the Burra Charter:

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

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

- **Setting** means the immediate and extended environment of a place that is part of or contributes to its cultural significance and distinctive character.
- **Interpretation** means all the ways of presenting the cultural significance of a place.

9.6 Stakeholders

Three workshops were undertaken as part of this study. These were coordinated by Newcastle City Council. The workshops provided an understanding of the users of the park and an opportunity to take their ideas and concerns and to develop conservation policies and recommendations for future use. The participants, methods and findings are contained in detail in the report: Civic Park, Workshop Outcomes, Corporate Services, Newcastle City Council, June 2016.

Details from the consultation process are included in Appendix D.

During future public domain planning for Civic Park, stakeholders and community workshops should occur to ensure that feedback is given in relation to the design of the spaces.

9.7 Funding Opportunities

Civic Park is listed in the Local Environmental Plan 2012. Funding for conservation programs and work is currently available for the next four years from the Office of Environment and Heritage, Heritage Near Me Grant.

The Captain Cook Memorial Fountain should be nominated for listing on the State Heritage Register. Emergency funding is available all year for conservation work and larger amounts of funding are available every one to two years from the Office of Environment and Heritage.

9.8 Proposed Future Uses

The use of the park will intensify with new users from the Law Court and University buildings and this will alter the demands and requirements of the users. It will also lead to greater use of paths, steps, seating, the terrace area and turfed areas requiring increased need for these.

CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT PLAN**10. CONSERVATION POLICY**

The purpose of the Conservation Policy is to provide guidance for the management of Civic Park. This includes policies for the conservation of significant fabric, compatible future uses and interpretation.

The constraints and opportunities contained in Section 10 have been referred to in forming these policies.

10.1 Policies for Vegetation and Built Fabric Conservation

Significant fabric should be conserved using the processes of The Burra Charter, 2013 and in accordance with the ratings of significance.

Rating	Definition of Rating	Summary of Policy according to Rating
Exceptional	Rare or outstanding element directly contributing to an item's local and State significance	Maintenance, Preservation, Restoration and Reconstruction all acceptable. Adaptation acceptable and a compatible use. Interpretation is encouraged to enhance the understanding of the history of the site, landscape and built fabric. Apply all the processes and principles of conservation as defined in the Burra Charter 2013.
High	High degree of original fabric. Demonstrates a key element of the item's significance. Alterations do not detract from significance.	Maintenance, Preservation, Restoration and Reconstruction all acceptable. Adaptation acceptable and a compatible use. Interpretation is encouraged to enhance the understanding of the place. Apply all the processes and principles of conservation as defined in the Burra Charter 2013.
Moderate	Altered or modified elements. Elements with little heritage value, but which contribute to the overall significance of the item.	Interpretation is encouraged to enhance the understanding the layers of history of Civic Park. Change to the site and its curtilage should be managed in accordance with the Burra Charter 2013.
Little	Alterations detract from significance. Difficult to interpret.	Recognise that this is a layer of the history of the place and remove only if detracting from significance or obscuring significance of the place.
Intrusive	Damaging to the item's heritage significance.	Remove in the long term if detracting from significance or obscuring significance of the place.

10.1.1 Trees and Vegetation

1. Civic Park demonstrates a range of planting styles and species which reflect the historic eras in which the park has evolved.
2. The assessment of cultural significance includes trees of high historic and social significance. Council will produce a Civic Park Public Domain Plan and a Tree Succession Strategy to manage the decline of trees

CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT PLAN

and address the soil improvements to the park. The process for the selection of tree species will be informed by the Newcastle City Council Urban Forest Policy, Newcastle City Council Street Tree Selection Manual and the Civic Park Conservation Management Plan and Policies.

3. Consider the diversity of species in Civic Park when determining the future planting list for Civic Park and ensure that all plantings are fit for purpose for the microclimatic conditions in the park.
4. Consider engaging suitable tree growers to grow on signature tree species for the park to ensure tree replacement and tree succession is maintained to protect cultural significance.

10.2 Policies for Site and Setting

NOTE: These policy recommendations are based on the grading of significance for the parts of the site. Refer to the physical assessment of the site contained in Section 4 and Appendix A.

Refer to Figure 3a site plan showing sections of the site

Refer to Figure 5a for the curtilage plan

Refer to Figure 7a for important views and axes on the site.

The curtilage of Civic Park is the lot boundary, including the Signalman's Cottage and the Burwood Coal and Copper Company tunnel and overbridge. This includes the lot boundary of Civic Park (Lot 300 in Deposited Plan 604071, Lot 11 in DP 1098216, Lots 2 and 5 in DP 95186, Lot 8 in DP 150031 and Lot 91 in DP 521033.) The curtilage also includes the Signalman's Cottage (Lot 12 DP150135) and the Burwood Coal and Copper Company tunnel and overbridge (Land no 121995, 9999 Laman St CH 2300, RD 20781, NCC). The curtilage is shown in figure 5a.

1. The curtilage provides the setting for Civic Park and considers the important axes and views. New items such as landscaping, fences, memorials, paving, buildings potentially alter the setting and views. All new items should enhance the setting of Civic Park.
2. New built elements and landscaping should not obscure or detract from the important axes and views of Civic Park both within and outside the site and entry points to the site. These views include:
 - Views along the central axis looking both south from Laman Street and north from King Street. These views begin on the south from the entry to the War Memorial Cultural Centre and on the north from the entry to City Hall.
 - The internal views from the central axis looking north towards the War Memorial, City Hall and Clock Tower and south towards the Captain Cook Memorial Fountain and the War Memorial Cultural Centre.
 - Views of the Captain Cook Memorial Fountain from the entry to the City Hall and King Street along the central axis.
 - Views from the terrace looking both east and west towards the Captain Cook Memorial Fountain. Internal views from the terrace looking north, east and west into the park.
 - Views from the south-western entry area of the memorial grove looking towards the RAAF memorial.
 - Views from King Street looking south towards the axis of the Vietnam War memorial.
 - Views to and from Wheeler Place of Civic Park.

Refer to Figure 6a showing views and axes.

3. The orientation of Civic Park allows for sunlight along the length of the park, including the King Street frontage and the width of the park including the turfed areas to the east and west, the terrace area and fountain on the south. Overshadowing of Civic Park should be controlled to the eastern and western section of the park and the central axis and fountain.

CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT PLAN**10.3 Policies for the Western Section of the Site**

NOTE: These policy recommendations are based on the grading of significance for the parts of the site. Refer to the physical assessment of the site contained in Section 4 and Appendix A.

1. This western section of the park is significant as the first section of the park that was designed and planted for the use of a park dating from c1934. This first use as a park should be interpreted.
2. Refer to 10.7 and 10.8 for Policies for Archaeology.
3. This section of the park included early built structures that are evident in the 1896 plan. This included two sheds and a building to the rear of St Andrews Presbyterian Church that may have been a stable. This area to the north of St Andrew's Presbyterian Church was leased from the AAC by the church for use as a horse paddock and stables.⁹⁶ No remaining fabric from this date is evident above ground level. This first use as a park should be interpreted. Refer to Appendix E for Policies for Archaeology: National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974 and Policies for Archaeology: Heritage Act 1977.
4. The area was also used as a timber yard by Andrew Cooks (destroyed by fire in 1908) prior to 1929 and P.W. Russell and Company, windmill manufacturers. No remaining fabric from this date is evident above ground level. This first use as a park should be interpreted. Refer to Section 5 for Policies for Archaeological Potential.

All fabric identified as being of EXCEPTIONAL and HIGH significance should be conserved.

1. The **Vietnam War Memorial** is identified as being of **high significance**. It should be conserved as an item, though the location and setting of this item is not assessed as significant. The location should be considered to allow for commemoration services and contemplation of its purpose as a memorial.

All fabric identified as being of MODERATE significance should be conserved.

2. The Memorial Plaque (Item W2)should be conserved within the park. Relocation could be considered if required.

Fabric identified as being of LITTLE significance should be removed or altered if this would conserve the significant fabric of Civic Park and/or reveal significance:

3. The concrete paths are assessed as being of little significance
4. Timber benches are assessed as being of little significance

Fabric identified as INTRUSIVE should be removed or altered if this would conserve the significant fabric of Civic Park and/or reveal significance:

5. The sandstone walls and garden beds (W4) are assessed as being intrusive. These should be removed.
6. The steel fence is assessed as being of intrusive significance. This should be removed.
7. The stainless steel electricity boxes are assessed as intrusive items and should be replaced with below ground services when feasible.

Policies for vegetation

8. The ongoing management of trees will be addressed as part of a Tree Succession Planting Strategy in a Public Domain Plan. Refer to the Inventory for the Western Section of the park in Appendix A.

⁹⁶ Hunter, *Newcastle Civic and Cultural Precinct Historical Development* (Newcastle City Council, 2002)

CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT PLAN

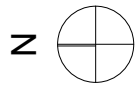


Figure 15a
Plan showing significant views

CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT PLAN**10.4 Policies for the Eastern Section of Park**

NOTE: These policy recommendations are based on the grading of significance for the parts of the site. Refer to the physical assessment of the site contained in Section 8 and Appendix A.

1. This section of the park included built structures from 1918-1960. These included Breckenridge timber yards (damaged by fire in 1929), G.H Varleys engineering workshops (sited here from 1918) and Newcastle fibrous plaster works. No remaining fabric from this date is evident above ground level. These first uses of this eastern section should be interpreted. Refer to Section 5 for Policies for Archaeological Potential.
2. Later development of the eastern section of this park included a 1940s a cricket pitch for the Police Citizens Boys Club was located in the central area. In 1945 a building was constructed for music tuition and this was added to in the 1960s. These were located on King Street and are likely to have been demolished when the Newcastle Conservatorium moved into the Salvation Army Peoples Palace on Auckland Street in 1981. In c1960 a large part of the eastern section was hard paved for a car park. No remaining fabric from this date is evident above ground level. This first uses of this eastern section should be interpreted.
3. Refer to 10.7 and 10.8 for Policies for Archaeology.

All fabric identified as being of MODERATE significance should be conserved.

1. The garden walls (Item E2) are assessed as being of high significance.

All fabric identified as being of MODERATE significance should be conserved.

2. The paving in the vicinity of the totems is assessed as being of moderate significance. This should be conserved.
3. The memorial bench to Lillie Wood and E.L. Whalan is assessed as being of moderate significance. This could be relocated, though it should be conserved within the park.
4. The memorial plaque, to the sister city UBE (Item E0) is assessed as being of moderate significance. This should be conserved within the park and could be relocated if this does not alter the significance value of the memorial. This is required to be interpreted.

Fabric identified as being of LITTLE significance may be retained or removed if these are no longer required.

5. The totems (Item E3-5) are assessed as being of little significance. These could be removed.
6. The park sign (item E0) is assessed as being of little significance. The sign should be consistent with the design for the historical interpretation of the park.
7. The concrete paths are assessed as of little significance. The condition should be maintained as a consistent finish with no trip hazards.
8. Timber benches are assessed as of little significance with the exception of the memorial bench to Lillie Wood and E.L. Whalan which are assessed as being of moderate significance.

Fabric identified as INTRUSIVE should be removed or altered if this would conserve the significant fabric of Civic Park and/or reveal significance:

9. The toilet block is assessed as intrusive. This should be demolished and replaced with a building that is consistent with the style of the park.
10. The picnic benches and table (Item E6) is assessed as an intrusive item that should be removed. New park furniture should be considered as part of a detailed design process.

CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT PLAN

11. The park bench (Item E7) is assessed as an intrusive item that should be removed. New park furniture should be considered as part of a detailed design process. New park furniture should be considered as part of a detailed design process
12. The stainless steel electricity boxes are assessed as intrusive items and should investigate replacement with below ground services when feasible.

Policies for vegetation

The ongoing management of trees will be addressed as part of a Tree Succession Planting Strategy in a Public Domain Plan. Refer to the Inventory for the Eastern Section of the park in Appendix A.

10.5 Policies for the Memorial Grove

NOTE: These policy recommendations are based on the grading of significance for the parts of the site. Refer to the physical assessment of the site contained in Section 4 and Appendix A.

All fabric identified as being of EXCEPTIONAL and HIGH significance should be conserved.

1. The memorial grove is assessed as being of high significance and should be conserved. Items within the memorial grove have been separately assessed and itemised in Appendix A inventories and management recommendations provided for each item.
2. The south-west entry to the memorial grove is assessed as being of high significance and should be conserved. This includes the steps, sandstone fender walls and plaques. The apron paving is assessed as being of little significance and the balustrade is assessed as intrusive.
3. The plaques and memorials within the memorial grove are assessed as being of high significance and should be conserved. Mulch should not obscure the plaques and consistent design of the plinths. Council will work with the memorial grove group, RSL and Legacy on improving the layout of the memorials. Refer to Appendix A for details on each memorial.
4. Bench (Item 39) has been assessed as being of high significance and should be conserved.
5. The RAAF memorial (Item 55) has been assessed as being of high significance and should be conserved and its presence reinforced.

Fabric identified as being of LITTLE significance should be removed or altered if this would conserve the significant fabric of Civic Park and/or reveal significance:

6. The benches within the memorial grove (Item seat 1 and seat 2, seat 3) are assessed as being of little significance and could be removed if this is required. Bench (Item 39) has been assessed as being of high significance and should be conserved. Benches should be a consistent design throughout the park.

Policies for vegetation

7. The ongoing management of trees will be addressed as part of a Tree Succession Planting Strategy in a Public Domain Plan. Refer to the Inventory for the memorial grove in Appendix A.

10.6 Policies for Terrace and Central Axis

NOTE: These policy recommendations are based on the grading of significance for the parts of the site. Refer to the physical assessment of the site contained in Section 4 and Appendix A.

All fabric identified as being of EXCEPTIONAL and HIGH significance should be conserved.

1. The **Captain James Cook Memorial Fountain** is assessed as being of **exceptional significance at a State level**. Consideration could be given to removing commemoration to James Cook and dedicating to the sculptor, Margel Hinder. Nominate to the State Heritage Register.
2. The **sandstone terrace walls** are assessed as being of **high significance** and should be conserved and deterioration remediated.

CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT PLAN

3. The **Burwood Coal and Copper Company tunnel and overbridge** are of **exceptional significance** and should be conserved. The railway, tunnel and overbridge should be included in an interpretation plan. Consider opening the tunnel for pedestrian use if feasible.
4. The **War Memorial** is assessed as being of **high significance** and should be conserved in its current location.

Fabric identified as being of LITTLE significance may be retained or removed if these are no longer required.

5. New fabric post Margel Hinder's installation and new fabric dating from the repair of the fountain in 2005. This fabric could be removed if required.
6. The concrete paving and vegetation in this area is assessed as being of little significance and could be removed if required and replaced with paving that is consistent with the style of the park.
7. The stairs to Laman Street, adjacent to the former tunnel are of little significance and could be removed if required.

Fabric identified as INTRUSIVE should be removed or altered if this would conserve the significant fabric of Civic Park and/or reveal significance:

8. The storage shed and water tanks are assessed as intrusive and should be demolished. A more appropriate and rational location should be considered to enable interpretation of the Burwood Coal Co. tunnel and railway and the Signalman's cottage.

Policies for vegetation

Annual Planting – annual plantings are now located in the spaces where rose gardens were once located close to the war memorial.

9. Annual plantings are not culturally significant but are resonant with the rose gardens that were once in this location in the 1960s. Any future design could give consideration to flower gardens in this location with possibly a mix of perennial and annual plantings.

10.7 Policies for Archaeology: National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974

NOTE: These policies are an extract from the archaeological section of the report prepared by the Archaeological Management and Consulting Group.

Refer to Appendix E

It is important to note that the archaeological evidence in this study describes only the archaeological potential of the study area. It is acknowledged that if the study area has little or no archaeological potential, the study area may still have cultural significance to the Aboriginal community which can only be ascertained by consultation with community local Aboriginal community and representatives.

Conserve and interpret the Aboriginal cultural and archaeological significance of Civic Park site.

A brief background analysis of the environmental and archaeological context revealed that the study area may contain Aboriginal deposits and/ or objects of conservation value in areas which remain undisturbed as well as within disturbed contexts. In view of surrounding landscape features present, which do indicate that sub-surface Aboriginal objects with potential conservation value may be present, the following has been recommended;

- Any future development that has the potential to disturb the ground surface that is not classified as an exempt or low impact activity (DECCW 2010), or involves impact deemed to be trivial or negligible, will need as a minimum a due diligence archaeological assessment in accordance with the Due Diligence Code of Practice for the Protection of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales, Part 6 National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974, (DECCW 2010).

CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT PLAN

- Any recommendations arising from this level of assessment should conform to the relevant Office of Environment and Heritage guidelines and standards.
- Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessments including consultation (in accordance with Due Diligence Code of Practice for the Protection of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales, Part 6 National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974, DECCW 2010), archaeological test excavation (in accordance with Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales, Part 6 National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974, DECCW 2010), salvage excavation and AHIPs are all possible outcomes from assessment and may be required for development within Civic Park, Newcastle.

10.8 Policies for Historical Archaeology: Heritage Act 1977

NOTE: These policies are an extract from the archaeological section of the report prepared by the Archaeological Management and Consulting Group.

Refer to Appendix E, Section 5.2

Background

Civic Park is listed on the State Heritage Inventory (SHI) and on the Newcastle Local Environment Plan as Item I430. In both instances the park is considered to hold local significance, but that significance is primarily vested in its function as a modern park in the Newcastle city centre. Its historical association with the AAC and Burwood lines is of secondary consideration on the State Heritage Inventory.

Recommendations

The recommendations below are based on the overview of current research pertaining to archaeological potential in Civic Park (Section 3.2) and the potential significance of that archaeology (Section 4.3). The table is set out to compare items with archaeological potential to their potential significance in terms of the NSW Heritage Act 1977 and recommendations for future action. The table can be viewed in conjunction with the historical overlay Figure 3.28.

Table 5.1 Recommendations

Item	Overlay Area	Potential Date	Description	Range of Potential Significance	Future Action
1	A	c.1896	Building	Not local or state significant to locally significant	Assess archaeology based on proposed future impacts.
2	A	c.1896	Shed	Not local or state significant to locally significant	Assess archaeology based on proposed future impacts.
3	A	c.1896	Building	Not local or state significant to locally significant	Assess archaeology based on proposed future impacts.
4	A	c.1896	Shed	Not local or state significant to locally significant	Assess archaeology based on proposed future impacts.
5	A	c.1896	Outbuilding	Not local or state significant to locally significant	Assess archaeology based on proposed future impacts.
6	A	c.1896	Building	Not local or state significant to locally significant	Assess archaeology based on proposed future impacts.
7	A	c.1910	Building	Not local or state significant to locally significant	Assess archaeology based on proposed future impacts.
8	A	c.1910	Building	Not local or state significant to locally significant	Assess archaeology based on proposed future impacts.
9	A	c.1910	Building	Not local or state significant to locally significant	Assess archaeology based on proposed future impacts.
10	C	c.1910	Building	Not local or state significant to locally significant	Assess archaeology based on proposed future impacts.

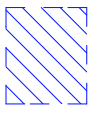
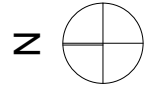
CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT PLAN

11	B	c.1945	Single-storey building	Not likely local or state significant	Assess archaeology based on proposed future impacts.
12	B	c.1960	Single-storey building	Not likely local or state significant	Assess archaeology based on proposed future impacts.
13	B	c.1960	Single-storey building	Not likely local or state significant	Assess archaeology based on proposed future impacts.
14	B	c.1960	Single-storey building	Not likely local or state significant	Assess archaeology based on proposed future impacts.
15	C	c.1939	Warehouse	Not local or state significant to locally significant	Assess archaeology based on proposed future impacts.
16	C	c.1939	Warehouse	Not local or state significant to locally significant	Assess archaeology based on proposed future impacts.
17	C	c.1939	Warehouse	Not local or state significant to locally significant	Assess archaeology based on proposed future impacts.
18	C	c.1939	Single-storey building	Not local or state significant to locally significant	Assess archaeology based on proposed future impacts.
19	C	c.1939	Shed	Not local or state significant to locally significant	Assess archaeology based on proposed future impacts.
20	C	c.1939	Single-storey building	Not local or state significant to locally significant	Assess archaeology based on proposed future impacts.
21	C	c.1939	Shed	Not local or state significant to locally significant	Assess archaeology based on proposed future impacts.
22	D	c.1896	Stone retaining wall	Not local or state significant to locally significant	Assess archaeology based on proposed future impacts.
23	D	c.1850	Burwood Coal Company Railway	Locally significant to State significant	Assess archaeology based on proposed future impacts.
24	D	c.1840	Australian Agricultural Company Railway	Locally significant to State significant	Assess archaeology based on proposed future impacts.
Air Raid Trench	Unknown	c.1941	WW2 'zig-zag' air raid trench	Not local or state significant to locally significant	Assess archaeology based on proposed future impacts.

10.9 Policies for Future Uses

Three workshops were undertaken as part of this study. The participants, methods and findings are contained in detail in the report: Civic Park, Workshop Outcomes, Corporate Services, Newcastle City Council, June 2016. Details from the consultation process are included in Appendix D.

1. During future public domain planning for Civic Park, stakeholders and community workshops should occur to ensure that feedback is given in relation to the design of the spaces.
2. Conserve the significant fabric of Civic Park including the assessed curtilage and views whilst adapting to the forecast increased use of Civic Park in the future. New built structures and vegetation should not obscure the assessed significant views identified in figure 7a. Plan in figure 8a indicates potential areas for new work that will not obscure significant views.
3. Strategically plan for proposed road widening on Darby Street and King Street to ensure that significant fabric, assessed curtilage and views are conserved.



AREAS FOR
POTENTIAL NEW
BUILDING WORKS

Figure 8a:

Design Parameters including views. Hatched areas indicate areas where new building work could potentially be undertaken without affecting significant views.
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September 2016

CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT PLAN**11. INTERPRETATION POLICY**

Refer to Appendix F for more detailed interpretation of the layers of the site.

Civic Park is on the surface, a park used by the community for recreation, as a thoroughfare, a promenade, a contemplative and memorial place, a market place, a meeting place and a place of play and rest and a relief from the city. This contemporary understanding of the place conceals a history of a site that was not always a park nor was it always planned as a park. Indeed it has an interesting past and by revealing the layers of history extends the meaning and the significance of this park to the contemporary community and the many users of the park. This history has created an opportunity to interpret and display this history.

The interpretation has the potential to be creative and varied in the method of display. It can include display of documentary evidence, enhancing the physical evidence of the site and built elements and plants, using sculpture, paving and signs in landscape to display the history of the place. There is also the potential for sound, digital or light displays.

A more detailed full interpretation plan and implementation should be considered as this site attracts many users and has the potential to capture the attention of the many contemporary users of the park and provide a story of the Aboriginal use of the land and the development of the town of Newcastle.

This interpretation strategy sets the conservation objectives for a more detailed interpretation plan that should be prepared in order to design creative interpretation that captures the interest of all the uses and visitors to the park.

The interpretation strategy includes both recommendations for the use of text and sound format and physical interpretation.

Text interpretation includes:

- digital displays of text, photographic evidence and plans.
- signs including text, photographic evidence and plans
- sound recordings

Physical interpretation includes

- light displays of photographic evidence
- sculpture including paving, furniture, plant design.

Identification of Themes

The following historical themes, drawn from the inventory from this Conservation Management Plan and future investigations with the Guraki Committee and other Aboriginal Agencies.

- Interpretation of Aboriginal story of Country, 19th Century, Awabakal/Worimi Language and traditional owners.
- Interpretation of Industrial Development of the site including:
 - AAC use of the site
 - Burwood Coal and Copper Company use of Site
 - Timber Yards
 - Windmill Manufacturers P.W. Russell and Co.
 - G.H. Varleys engineering workshops and Newcastle fibrous plaster works.
- Interpretation of Other Uses of Civic Park including:
 - Cricket pitch for the Police Citizens Boys Club
 - Music Tuition Rooms
 - WWII trenches (more research required)
 - Extensions to the Central Children's Library (more research required)

CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT PLAN**Signs**

Signs on site could include a combination of interpretative and directional sign. The design and placement of the signs will be included in the Civic Park Public Domain Plan.

Directional signage will be located at key entry locations to the park.

Interpretive signage will be located in key positions of importance within the park. The design, wording and images will be informative.

Urban Embedded Technology

Urban embedded technology could be used, the purpose of which is to create an interactive environment. Digital technology has the potential to interpret the built environment and provide opportunities for new types of interaction and social connection to the site. This could be through links to websites for written and oral stories of various locations within the park.

CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT PLAN**12. MAINTENANCE PLAN****12.1 Maintenance Schedule – Maintenance Recommendations**

The purpose of this schedule is to show the recommended conservation work based on the significance rating of built elements.

The maintenance schedule can be applied to ongoing and future use of the buildings and hence the work has been prioritised:

- Immediate Priority** These works should be attended to immediately or in the next year.
- Medium Priority** These works are not immediately necessary - should be attended to in the next 5 years.
- Long Term Priority** These works should be planned to be undertaken in the next 5 to 10 years.

Immediate Priority	These works should be attended to immediately or in the next year.			
Built Fabric				
	Description of Fabric	Significance Rating	Condition	Recommended Conservation Work
	Concrete Paving throughout park	Little	Good to Fair	Repair all raised and cracked concrete that could be a trip hazard
	Stairs around fountain and throughout park.	Little	Fair	Repair all cracked treads.
	Memorials	High	Good	Remove mulch that is obscuring legibility of plaques .

Medium Priority	These works are not immediately necessary and should be attended to in the next 5 years.			
Built Fabric				
	Description of Fabric	Significance Rating	Condition	Recommended Conservation Work
	Retaining walls and raised garden bed in western section on boundary with signalman's cottage and St Andrews.	Little	Fair	Remove raised garden beds and retaining walls in this western section in order to improve the connection of the park with the Signalman's Cottage and to return to the earlier ground level. Batter the former wall alignment. This can only be done

CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT PLAN

				if the trees are stabilised.
Long Term Priority	These works should be planned to be undertaken in the next 5 to 10 years.			
Built Fabric				
	Description of Fabric	Significance Rating	Condition	Recommended Conservation Work
	Retaining walls in area of terrace	High	Poor	<p>Retain sandstone terrace walls and allow alteration to location of retaining walls and potential to increase the size and horizontal steps and seating locations.</p> <p>Install drainage behind all sandstone terrace walls.</p> <p>Rebuild with sandstone. Reuse existing sandstone if not damaged and treat salt.</p> <p>Rebuild walls with lime based mortar.</p> <p>Consult with heritage architect in rebuilding and design of these terraces.</p>
	Concrete Paving	Little	Fair	<p>Design paving type in same style as the 1960s urban design of the park or a consistent contemporary style similar to the Fountain surrounds.</p> <p>Paths should emphasise the central axis and all other paths should be secondary.</p>
	Tactile Indicators and non-slip surfaces.	na	na	Minimise the use of tactile indicators. These should be discreet and similar to existing tactile indicators in the area of the fountain.
	Lighting	Little	Poor	<p>Design paving type that is in same style as the 1960s urban design of the park.</p> <p>Lighting should</p>

CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT PLAN

Long Term Priority	These works should be planned to be undertaken in the next 5 to 10 years.			
				emphasise the central axis and all other paths should be secondary.
	Signs	Little	Good	Rationalise signs and install in areas that do not interrupt important views. Design signs that do not detract from the 1960s urban design of the park. Intergrate with interpretation of the park as part of a consistent contemporary design.
	Above ground services	Intrusive	Good	Rationalise services and install in areas that do not interrupt important views. Consider placing services in one discreet area and/or underground.
	Benches and furniture	Little	Good- Fair	Remove if required. Design benches and park furniture that interprets the 1960s urban design of the park or are a consistent contemporary design.
	Memorial Benches	Moderate	Good- Fair	Conserve and oil timber every 6 to 12 months. Relocate only with consultation with family members of community
	Balustrades to stairs			Where required continue the balustrades used around the fountain as a consistent contemporary design throughout the park.
	Memorials	High	Good- Fair	Conserve and clean every 6 to 12 months. Use low acid cleaners on stone.
	War Memorial	High	Good	Any new built items should not detract from the central axis and maintain the north-

CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT PLAN

Long Term Priority	These works should be planned to be undertaken in the next 5 to 10 years.			
				<p>south orientation.</p> <p>Any new paving around the memorial should be consistent in design to other new paving throughout the park and repeats the paving type surrounding the fountain.</p>
	Steel fence on boundary with St Andrews and the Signalman's Cottage.	Intrusive	Good	<p>Remove steel fence if feasible. This is not Council owned and will require agreement from the property owner.</p> <p>Partially reconstruct original fences based on photographic evidence.</p> <p>Allow interpretation of link with signalman's cottage and AAC line and Burwood Co. line.</p>
	Toilet block	Intrusive	Good	Demolish if feasible
	Storeroom and water tanks	Intrusive	Good	Demolish if feasible
	Burwood Coal and Copper Co. Tunnel	Exceptional	Unknown	Open Burwood Coal and Copper Co. tunnel for pedestrian use if feasible.
	Stairs to Laman Street located to south-west.	Little - Intrusive	Fair	Remove if required in order to interpret the location of the Burwood Coal and Copper Co railway and allow access to the tunnel.

CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT PLAN**13. BIBLIOGRAPHY****Documentary Evidence**

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Appendix A - Inventory of Buildings and Plants

Appendix A

Inventories

The parts of the site and elements within the site have separate inventory sheets that include photographic evidence and a description of each element. The inventories record the physical description and condition and significance of each element and the appropriate management.

Ratings of Significance:

The Inventory includes a rating of significance for parts of the site and elements within the site. The ratings are based on the NSW Heritage Council's Criteria: (refer Assessing Heritage Significance, July 2001)

Rating	Definition of Rating	Summary of Policy according to Rating
Exceptional	Rare or outstanding element directly contributing to an item's local and State significance	Maintenance, Preservation, Restoration and Reconstruction all acceptable. Adaptation acceptable and a compatible use. Interpretation is encouraged to enhance the understanding of the history of the site and buildings. Apply all the processes and principles of conservation as defined in the Burra Charter 2013.
High	High degree of original fabric. Demonstrates a key element of the item's significance. Alterations do not detract from significance.	Maintenance, Preservation, Restoration and Reconstruction all acceptable. Adaptation acceptable and a compatible use. Interpretation is encouraged to enhance the understanding of the place. Apply all the processes and principles of conservation as defined in the Burra Charter 2013.
Moderate	Altered or modified elements. Elements with little heritage value, but which contribute to the overall significance of the item.	Interpretation is encouraged to enhance the understanding of the former school and school master's accommodation. Change to the site and its curtilage should be managed in accordance with the Burra Charter 2013.
Little	Alterations detract from significance. Difficult to interpret.	Recognise that this is a layer of the history of the place and remove only if detracting from significance or obscuring significance of the place.
Intrusive	Damaging to the item's heritage significance.	Remove in the long term if detracting from significance or obscuring significance of the place.

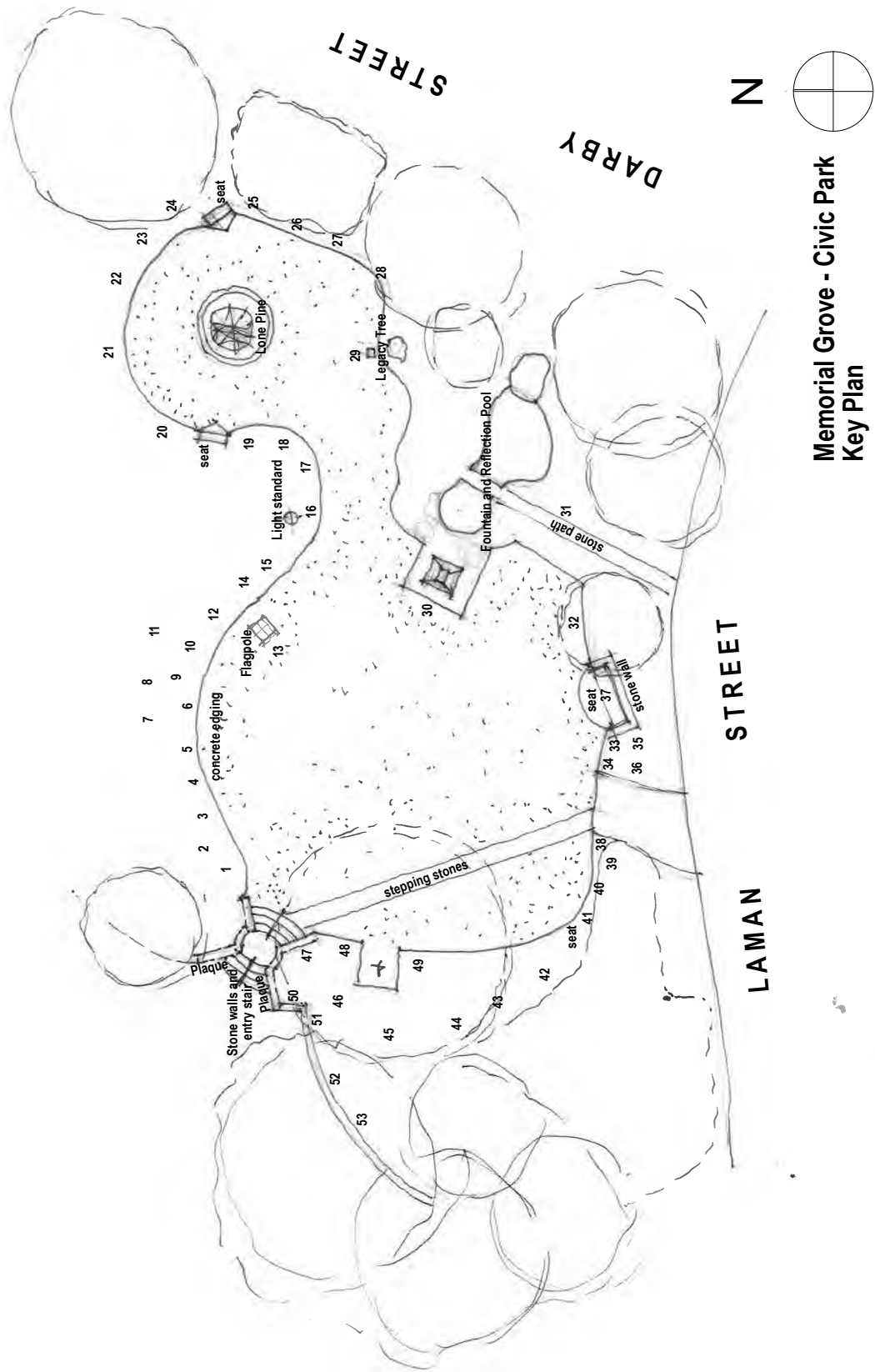
The site plan and key plans of the park are provided in Figures 1b, 2b, 3b

Name	Memorial Grove	
Description and Condition:	<p>The memorial grove was proposed and donated by three Newcastle Garden Clubs with donations from Newcastle City Council, the Victoria League and the Newcastle District Council of Ex-service Sub Branches. It was designed by the Sydney architect Augustus Alley. In 1961, the memorial grove was dedicated by the Anglican Bishop of Newcastle. The building of this memorial has been cumulative over a number of years and included built memorials and tree planting. The building of the sandstone walls for the memorial grove began in the early 1960s. The largest addition to the grove was in 1967 with the erection of the memorial to the RAAF which is a tapered sandstone column topped with a wedgetail eagle carved by Don Mchattie.</p> <p>In the same year the Western Suburbs Leagues Club erected a flagpole in the Memorial Grove with a plaque dedicating it to the Newcastle Air Force Association and a year later a wreath in honour of the WAAAF Association. Among other trees within the memorial grove was a Lone Pine planted in 1969 by Newcastle Legacy.</p> <p>The Memorial Grove is located in the south-east corner of Civic Park. It is accessible from two paths in Laman Street and steps within the park on the north-west as shown in the site plan.</p> <p>The site is in good condition and well maintained.</p>	
Curtilage	The curtilage includes the area as shown in Figure 2, Key Plan of Memorial Grove.	
Significance Rating	High Significance	The Memorial Grove as a whole. note: The significance of items within have been assessed in separate inventories.
	European Archaeological Potential:	Refer to Appendix E, (3.2 Discussion of Archaeological Potential), Figure 3.28
	• Low Archaeological Potential	Area D – area of fountain and terrace as shown in Figure 3.28 (Appendix E)
	• High Archaeological Potential	Area C – Refer to figure 3.28 (Appendix E)
Management	Refer to Conservation Policy for detailed recommendations in Section 10.	
Images	Location Plan Key Plan showing monuments Photographs	




- Western Section
- Central Axis and Terrace
- Eastern Section
- Memorial Grove

Figure 1b
Plan showing division of site into sections for the purpose of this study





Memorial Grove - Civic Park
 Key Plan


Figure 2b Key Plan of the Memorial Grove


Name	Memorial Grove Plaques and Memorials	
Item 0	Entry steps and fender walls	
Description and Condition:	<p>Steps are concrete and curcular in plan. Splayed fender walls to each side of the steps are consturcted in dressed sandstone blocks with mottared joints. Two plaques are mounted to each side of the steps on these walls. A galvanised steel pipe handrail has been installed to the centre of the stair.</p> <p>The site is in good condition and well maintained.</p>	
Significance Rating	High Significance	Stairs, fender walls in stone and memorial plaques
	Little Significance	Apron paving
	Intrusive Significance	Handrail
Management	<p>Refer to Conservation Policy for detailed recommendations in Section 10.</p> <p>Conserve stairs and fender walls. Remove central handrail, and replace with handrails in bronze or anodised aluminium to walls on either side of stairs.</p>	
Images Carste STUDIO May 2016		
Plans	<p>Figure 1b Plan showing division of site into sections for the purpose of this study</p> <p>Figure 2b Key Plan of the Memorial Grove</p>	


Plaque	
Plaque	


Name	Memorial Grove Plaques and Memorials	
Item 1	Newcastle Sub-Branch, Royal Australian Armoured Corps Association	
Inscription:	<p style="text-align: center;">In Memory of Fallen Comrades Newcastle Sub-Branch Royal Australian Armoured Corps Association 17th November, 1979</p>	
Description and Condition:	<p>Cast brass plate, oxidised finish. Mounted on a concrete plinth. Good condition</p> <p>Most Australians who served in Armoured Corps during The Second World War did not have the chance to leave their country's shores.</p> <p>By the time that peace came, these men, and their leaders, were aware that they might lose their identity as members of a unique army simply because, through no fault of their own, they had not been allowed to serve overseas.</p> <p>To preserve and perpetuate both the Corps and the camaraderie that had evolved within it, a meeting was organised at Southport Queensland. There, on the 28th September 1945, at the headquarters of 4th Australian Armoured Brigade Group, the Brigade Commander, (then) Brigadier Denzil Macarthur-Onslow, was the guiding light behind the Australian Armoured Corps Association.</p>	
Significance Rating	High Significance	
Management	<p>Conserve plinth and plaque.</p> <p>Council will work with the Memorial Grove Group, RSL and Legacy on improving the future layout and positioning and design of plaques. Existing person plaques will be incorporated into this approach.</p>	
Image Carste STUDIO May 2016		


Name	Memorial Grove Plaques and Memorials	
Item 2	RILEY. Thomas W.	
Inscription:	Fourth Engineer Thomas W. RILEY Merchant Navy Missing 1940	
Description and Condition:	Bronze plate on sandstone plinth. Good condition	
Significance Rating	High significance	
Management	Conserve plinth and plaque Council will work with the Memorial Grove Group, RSL and Legacy on improving the future layout and positioning and design of plaques. Existing person plaques will be incorporated into this approach.	
Image Carste STUDIO May 2016		


Name	Memorial Grove Plaques and Memorials	
Item 3	1940 Dunkirk Veterans Association	
Inscription:	1940 Dunkirk Veterans Association Hunter District Branch In Memory of Fallen Comrades May – June 1940	
Description and Condition:	Cast brass on concrete plinth. Good condition	
Significance Rating	High significance	
Management	Conserve plinth and plaque. Council will work with the Memorial Grove Group, RSL and Legacy on improving the future layout and positioning and design of plaques. Existing person plaques will be incorporated into this approach.	
Image Carste STUDIO May 2016		


Name	Memorial Grove Plaques and Memorials	
Item 4	McLeod. Finlay	
Inscription:	Sgt. Pilot Finlay. McLeod R.A.A.F. Killed in Action Germany 1942	
Description and Condition:	Bronze plate on sandstone plinth. Good condition	
Significance Rating	High Significance	
Management	Conserve plinth and plaque. Council will work with the Memorial Grove Group, RSL and Legacy on improving the future layout and positioning and design of plaques. Existing person plaques will be incorporated into this approach.	
Images:		


Name	Memorial Grove Plaques and Memorials	
Item 5	MATHIESON. Milton A.	
Inscription:	F/O Milton A. MATHIESON Killed in Action 1945	
Description and Condition:	Bronze plate on sandstone plinth. Good condition	
Significance Rating	High Significance	
Management	<p>Conserve plinth and plaque.</p> <p>Council will work with the Memorial Grove Group, RSL and Legacy on improving the future layout and positioning and design of plaques. Existing person plaques will be incorporated into this approach.</p>	
Images		


Name	Memorial Grove Plaques and Memorials	
Item 6.1	1 of a Group of 7 plaques POLLARD. Frank A.	
Inscription:	Frank A. POLLARD R.A.A.F. 28.6.1992	
Description and Condition:	Cast brass plate on concrete plinth. Good condition. Council will work with the Memorial Grove Group, RSL and Legacy on improving the future layout and positioning and design of plaques. Existing person plaques will be incorporated into this approach.	
Significance Rating	High Significance	
Management	Conserve plinth and plaque. Council will work with the Memorial Grove Group, RSL and Legacy on improving the future layout and positioning and design of plaques. Existing person plaques will be incorporated into this approach.	
Images		


Name	Memorial Grove Plaques and Memorials	
Item 6.2	2 of a Group of 7 plaques VARLEY. Clem,	
Inscription:	Clem VARLEY Squadron Leader A.F.C. – R.A.A.F. 6.6.1971	
Description and Condition:	Bronze plate on sandstone plinth. Good condition.	
Significance Rating	High Significance	
Management	Conserve plinth and plaque. Council will work with the Memorial Grove Group, RSL and Legacy on improving the future layout and positioning and design of plaques. Existing person plaques will be incorporated into this approach.	
Images:		

Name	Memorial Grove Plaques and Memorials	
Item 6.3	3 of a Group of 7 plaques SCOTT. H.J. "Hec".	
Inscription:	FLT/LT. H.J. "Hec" SCOTT M.B.E. R.A.A. F. 3.9.1989	
Description and Condition:	Cast brass plate on sandstone plinth with white infill to lettering. Good condition.	
Significance Rating	High Significance	
Management	Conserve plinth and plaque. Council will work with the Memorial Grove Group, RSL and Legacy on improving the future layout and positioning and design of plaques. Existing person plaques will be incorporated into this approach.	
Images:		


Name	Memorial Grove Plaques and Memorials	
Item 6.4	4 of a Group of 7 plaques SCOTT. George.	
Description:	George SCOTT Warrant Officer R.A.A.F. 5.4.1970	
Inscription and Condition:	Bronze on sandstone plinth. Repaired condition with concrete indent.	
Significance Rating	High Significance	
Management	Conserve plinth and plaque. Council will work with the Memorial Grove Group, RSL and Legacy on improving the future layout and positioning and design of plaques. Existing person plaques will be incorporated into this approach.	
Images:		


Name	Memorial Grove Plaques and Memorials	
Item 6.5	5 of a Group of 7 plaques HENDERSON. Jim.	
Inscription:	Jim HENDERSON Chaplain Wing Commander R.A.A.F. 29.9.1971	
Description and Condition:	Bronze on sandstone plinth. Good condition.	
Significance Rating	High Significance	
Management	Conserve plinth and plaque. Council will work with the Memorial Grove Group, RSL and Legacy on improving the future layout and positioning and design of plaques. Existing person plaques will be incorporated into this approach.	
Images:		


Name	Memorial Grove Plaques and Memorials	
Item 6.6	6 of a Group of 7 plaques SUNDERLAND. C.H.	
Inscription:	C.H. "Scotty" SUNDERLAND O.A.M. SGT R.A.A.F. 8.4.80	
Description and Condition:	Bronze on concrete plinth. Good condition.	
Significance Rating	High Significance	
Management	Conserve plinth and plaque. Council will work with the Memorial Grove Group, RSL and Legacy on improving the future layout and positioning and design of plaques. Existing person plaques will be incorporated into this approach.	
Images:		

Name	Memorial Grove Plaques and Memorials	
Item 6.7	7 of a Group of 7 plaques TAPP. Matthew L.	
Inscription:	FLT./LT. Matthew L. "Matt" TAPP D.F.C. R.A.A.F. 23.11.1992	
Description and Condition:	Cast brass on concrete plinth. Good condition.	
Significance Rating	High Significance	
Management	Conserve plinth and plaque. Council will work with the Memorial Grove Group, RSL and Legacy on improving the future layout and positioning and design of plaques. Existing person plaques will be incorporated into this approach.	
Images:		


Name	Memorial Grove Plaques and Memorials	
Item 7	JAMES. C.	
Inscription:	A.B. Martin C. JAMES R.A.N. Killed in Action 1941	
Description and Condition:	Bronze plate on sandstone plinth. Good condition.	
Significance Rating	High Significance	
Management	<p>Conserve plinth and plaque.</p> <p>Council will work with the Memorial Grove Group, RSL and Legacy on improving the future layout and positioning and design of plaques. Existing person plaques will be incorporated into this approach.</p>	
Images:		

Name	Memorial Grove Plaques and Memorials	
Item 8	Newcastle Central Voluntary Aid Detachments	
Inscription and Notes:	<p style="text-align: center;">NEWCASTLE CENTRAL V.A.D.</p> <p>The primary role of a Voluntary Aid Detachment (VAD) member was that of nursing orderly in hospitals, carrying out menial but essential tasks - scrubbing floors, sweeping, dusting and cleaning bathrooms and other areas, dealing with bedpans, and washing patients. They were not employed in military hospitals, except as ward and pantry maids; rather, they worked in Red Cross convalescent and rest homes, canteens, and on troop trains.</p> <p>During the 1st World War many travelled to Britain to work in Australian Auxillary hospitals. VADs in the 2nd World War were given more medical training but were not fully qualified Nurses.</p>	
Description and Condition:	Bronze plate on concrete plinth. Good condition.	
Significance Rating	High Significance	
Management	<p>Conserve plinth and plaque.</p> <p>Council will work with the Memorial Grove Group, RSL and Legacy on improving the future layout and positioning and design of plaques. Existing person plaques will be incorporated into this approach.</p>	
Images:		

Name	Memorial Grove Plaques and Memorials	
Item 9	DIBLEY Stuart H.	
Inscription:	424160 F/LT STUART H. DIBLEY O.A.M. 7.9.1916 – 15.10.2002 He Reached for the Sky	
Description and Condition:	Cast brass plate with bronzed finish on sandstone plinth. Good condition.	
Significance Rating	High Significance	
Management	Conserve plinth and plaque. Council will work with the Memorial Grove Group, RSL and Legacy on improving the future layout and positioning and design of plaques. Existing person plaques will be incorporated into this approach.	
Images:		

Name	Memorial Grove Plaques and Memorials	
Item 10	MOODIE. Claude H.	
Inscription:	3161 PTE CLAUDE H. MOODIE 56 th Battalion 5 Div. 11 th July 1962	
Description and Condition:	Bronze plate on concrete plinth. Good condition.	
Significance Rating	High Significance	
Management	Conserve plinth and plaque. Council will work with the Memorial Grove Group, RSL and Legacy on improving the future layout and positioning and design of plaques. Existing person plaques will be incorporated into this approach.	
Images:		

Name	Memorial Grove Plaques and Memorials	
Item 11	ARMSTRONG. Eric A.T.	
Inscription:	CAPTAIN ERIC A.T. ARMSTRONG NX68994 1 st Australian Signals Section (A.I.F.) 26.7.1911 – 15.8.1992	
Description and Condition:	Cast Brass plate on sandstone plinth. Good condition.	
Significance Rating	High Significance	
Management	Conserve plinth and plaque. Council will work with the Memorial Grove Group, RSL and Legacy on improving the future layout and positioning and design of plaques. Existing person plaques will be incorporated into this approach.	
Images:		


Name	Memorial Grove Plaques and Memorials	
Item 12	RUSSELL. R.H.	
Inscription:	COL. ROBERT HEATHCOTE RUSSELL A.A.M.C. Killed in Air Crash 1945	
Description and Condition:	Bronze plate on sandstone plinth. Good condition.	
Significance Rating	High Significance	
Management	Conserve plinth and plaque. Council will work with the Memorial Grove Group, RSL and Legacy on improving the future layout and positioning and design of plaques. Existing person plaques will be incorporated into this approach.	
Images:		

Name	Memorial Grove Plaques and Memorials	
Item 13	FLAGPOLE	
Inscription:	RESENTED TO NEWCASTLE AIR FORCE ASSOCIATION -BY- WESTERN SUBURBS LEAUGES CLUB IN MEMORY OF THOSE WHO PAID THE SUPREME SACRIFICE. 25.6.1967 LEST WE FORGET	
Description and Condition:	Stainless steel plate on sandstone plinth. Good condition.	
Significance Rating	High Significance	Plaque and plinth
	High Significance	Flagpole
Management	Conserve plinth and plaque. Council will work with the Memorial Grove Group, RSL and Legacy on improving the future layout and positioning and design of plaques. Existing person plaques will be incorporated into this approach.	

Images:






Name	Memorial Grove Plaques and Memorials	
Item 14	TURNER. Josiah	
Inscription:	FLIGHT SGT JOSIAH TURNER R.A.A.F. Killed in Action 1944	
Description and Condition:	Bronze plate on sandstone plinth. Good condition.	
Significance Rating	High Significance	
Management	Conserve plinth and plaque. Council will work with the Memorial Grove Group, RSL and Legacy on improving the future layout and positioning and design of plaques. Existing person plaques will be incorporated into this approach.	
Images:		

Name	Memorial Grove Plaques and Memorials	
Item 15	HOMARD. K.	
Inscription:	L.A.C. KEITH HOMARD Lost on H.M.A.S. SYDNEY 1941	
Description and Condition:	Bronze plate on concrete plinth. Good condition.	
Significance Rating	High Significance	
Management	Conserve plinth and plaque. Council will work with the Memorial Grove Group, RSL and Legacy on improving the future layout and positioning and design of plaques. Existing person plaques will be incorporated into this approach.	
Images:		

Name	Memorial Grove Plaques and Memorials	
Item 16	JACKSON. F.O.	
Inscription:	SGT. FRANK OWEN JACKSON 2 ND /51 TH Div. A.I.F. 16.1.1991	
Description and Condition:	Bronze plate with white infill lettering on sandstone plinth. Has a damaged edge which requires repair.	
Significance Rating	High Significance	
Management	Conserve plinth and plaque. Council will work with the Memorial Grove Group, RSL and Legacy on improving the future layout and positioning and design of plaques. Existing person plaques will be incorporated into this approach.	
Images:		

Name	Memorial Grove Plaques and Memorials	
Item 17	UNITED SERVICE CLUB	
Inscription:	UNITED SERVICE CLUB NEWCASTLE	
Description and Condition:	Bronze plate on sandstone plinth. Good condition.	
Significance Rating	High Significance	
Management	<p>Conserve plinth and plaque.</p> <p>Council will work with the Memorial Grove Group, RSL and Legacy on improving the future layout and positioning and design of plaques. Existing person plaques will be incorporated into this approach.</p>	
Images:		


Name	Memorial Grove Plaques and Memorials	
Item 18	MARLEY. S.	
Inscription:	SGT. SIDNEY MARLEY R.A.A.F. LOST WITH H.M.A.S. SYDNEY Nov. 1941	
Description and Condition:	Bronze plate on concrete plinth. Good condition.	
Significance Rating	High Significance	
Management	Conserve plinth and plaque. Council will work with the Memorial Grove Group, RSL and Legacy on improving the future layout and positioning and design of plaques. Existing person plaques will be incorporated into this approach.	
Images:		


Name	Memorial Grove Plaques and Memorials	
Item 19	M ^C INTYRE. R	
Inscription:	PRIVATE ROY M ^C INTYRE A.I.F. Killed in Action 1942	
Description and Condition:	Bronze plate on concrete plinth. Good condition.	
Significance Rating	High Significance	
Management	Conserve plinth and plaque. Council will work with the Memorial Grove Group, RSL and Legacy on improving the future layout and positioning and design of plaques. Existing person plaques will be incorporated into this approach.	
Images:		


Name	Memorial Grove Plaques and Memorials	
Item Seat 1	Park Seating	
Inscription:	N/A	
Description and Condition:	Stainless steel frame with hardwood stained slats fixed to a concrete paving base.	
Significance Rating	Little Significance	
Management	Council will work with the Memorial Grove Group, RSL and Legacy on improving the future layout and positioning and design of seats.	
Images:		

Name	Memorial Grove Plaques and Memorials	
Item 20	JACKSON. F.P.,	
Inscription:	GUNNER FRED P. JACKSON A.I.F. PRISONER OF WAR. 1945	
Description and Condition:	Bronze plate on concrete plinth. Good condition.	
Significance Rating	High Significance	
Management	<p>Conserve plinth and plaque.</p> <p>Council will work with the Memorial Grove Group, RSL and Legacy on improving the future layout and positioning and design of plaques. Existing person plaques will be incorporated into this approach.</p>	
Images:		


Name	Memorial Grove Plaques and Memorials	
Item 21	CLARKE. T. K.	
Inscription:	F/O THOMAS K. CLARKE R.A.A.F. Missing believed killed 1944	
Description and Condition:	Bronze plate on concrete plinth. Good condition.	
Significance Rating	High Significance	
Management	Conserve plinth and plaque. Council will work with the Memorial Grove Group, RSL and Legacy on improving the future layout and positioning and design of plaques. Existing person plaques will be incorporated into this approach.	
Images:		

Name	Memorial Grove Plaques and Memorials	
Item 22	BELL. T.,	
Inscription:	PRIVATE TOM BELL A.I.F. KILLED IN ACTION 1916	
Description and Condition:	Bronze plate on concrete plinth. Tarnished and some damage to the top right hand corner of the plinth.	
Significance Rating	High Significance	
Management	Conserve plinth and plaque. Council will work with the Memorial Grove Group, RSL and Legacy on improving the future layout and positioning and design of plaques. Existing person plaques will be incorporated into this approach.	
Images:		

Name	Memorial Grove Plaques and Memorials	
Item 23	SMITH. B. H.	
Inscription:	FLIGHT SGT BENJAMIN H. SMITH R.A.A.F. KILLED IN ACTION 1944	
Description and Condition:	Bronze plate on sandstone plinth. Good condition.	
Significance Rating	High Significance	
Management	Conserve plinth and plaque. Council will work with the Memorial Grove Group, RSL and Legacy on improving the future layout and positioning and design of plaques. Existing person plaques will be incorporated into this approach.	
Images:		


Name	Memorial Grove Plaques and Memorials	
Item 24	MITCHELL. S. E.,	
Inscription:	FLYING OFFICER STEWART E. MITCHELL EX-PRESIDENT NEWCASTLE CATALINA ASSOC. DIED 15 TH JULY 1967	
Description and Condition:	Bronze plate on sandstone plinth. Good condition. Concealed beneath a shrub	
Significance Rating	High Significance	
Management	Conserve plinth and plaque. Council will work with the Memorial Grove Group, RSL and Legacy on improving the future layout and positioning and design of plaques. Existing person plaques will be incorporated into this approach.	
Images:		


Name	Memorial Grove Seat	
Item Seat 2	Park Seating	
Inscription:	N/A	
Description and Condition:	Stainless steel frame with hardwood stained slats fixed to a concrete paving base.	
Significance Rating	Little Significance	
Management	<p>Conserve plinth and plaque.</p> <p>Council will work with the Memorial Grove Group, RSL and Legacy on improving the future layout and positioning and design of seats</p>	
Images:		

Name	Memorial Grove Plaques and Memorials	
Item 25	GRAY. J.W.	
Inscription:	PRIVATE JAMES W. GRAY A.I.F. KILLED IN ACTION 1943	
Description and Condition:	Bronze plate on concrete plinth. Tarnished. Otherwise good condition. Concealed by an overhanging shrub.	
Significance Rating	High Significance	
Management	Conserve plinth and plaque. Council will work with the Memorial Grove Group, RSL and Legacy on improving the future layout and positioning and design of plaques. Existing person plaques will be incorporated into this approach.	
Images:		

Name	Memorial Grove Plaques and Memorials	
Item 26	ROSS. F. G.,	
Inscription:	DRIVER FRED G. ROSS A.I.F. KILLED IN ACTIVE SERVICE 1944	
Description and Condition:	Bronze plate on concrete plinth. Good condition. Concealed by an overhanging shrub.	
Significance Rating	High Significance	
Management	Conserve plinth and plaque. Council will work with the Memorial Grove Group, RSL and Legacy on improving the future layout and positioning and design of plaques. Existing person plaques will be incorporated into this approach.	
Images:		

Name	Memorial Grove Plaques and Memorials	
Item 27	NEEDS. K. L.	
Inscription:	P./O. KENNETH L. NEEDS R.A.A.F. Missing believed dead 1943	
Description and Condition:	Bronze plate on concrete plinth. Good condition. Section missing from top right hand side plinth. Totally concealed by an overhandgng shrub.	
Significance Rating	High Significance	
Management	Conserve plinth and plaque. Council will work with the Memorial Grove Group, RSL and Legacy on improving the future layout and positioning and design of plaques. Existing person plaques will be incorporated into this approach.	
Images:		

Name	Memorial Grove Plaques and Memorials	
Item 28	POUTNEY. L.R.	
Inscription:	"LEST WE FORGET" POUTNEY. L.R. 5 TH LIGHTHORSE	
Description and Condition:	White timber cross on a plastic stake. Appears to be an informal and individual memorial installed on Eve of ANZAC DAY services 2015.	
Significance Rating	High Significance	
Management	<p>Conserve plinth and plaque.</p> <p>Council will work with the Memorial Grove Group, RSL and Legacy on improving the future layout and positioning and design of plaques. Existing person plaques will be incorporated into this approach.</p>	
Images:		


Name	Memorial Grove Plaques and Memorials	
Item 29	CONNORS. L. J.	
Inscription:	FLIGHT LIEUT. LESLIE J., CONNORS R.A.A.F. MISSING 1943	
Description and Condition:	Bronze plate on sandstone plinth. Some damage to the top left hand side of the plinth. Located beneath a tree and relatively concealed.	
Significance Rating	High Significance	
Management	Conserve plinth and plaque. Council will work with the Memorial Grove Group, RSL and Legacy on improving the future layout and positioning and design of plaques. Existing person plaques will be incorporated into this approach.	
Images:		

Name	Memorial Grove Plaques and Memorials	
Item 30	LEGACY TREE PLAQUE	
Inscription:	<p>LEGACY TREE THIS TREE WAS PLANTED BY NEWCASTLE LEGACY CLUB 28 AUGUST 1966 IN MEMORY OF DEPARTED COMRADES THIS TREE IS A SEEDLING OF THE 24 BATTALION TREE GROWING AT THE MEMORIAL SHRINE AT MELBOURNE. THE 24 BATALION TREE WAS GROWN FROM A PINE CONE FROM THE ORIGINAL LONE PINE AT GALLIPOLI PICKED UP BY A SOLDIER OF THAT BATTALION JUST PRIOR TO THE FINAL EVACUATION FROM THE PENINSULA IN 1915</p>	
Description and Condition:	<p>Bronze plate pinned to concrete plinth. The plate has white inscription infill. The Legacy Tree was destroyed by a storm in 2015. The remaining evidence of the tree includes a trunk, cut close to the ground.</p>	
Significance Rating	High Significance	Remnant stump is a significant record of WWI Lone Pine and should be conserved.
Management	<p>Conserve plinth and plaque and remnant stump. Retain the plaque and stump in original situation.</p>	



Images:






Name	Memorial Grove Memorial	
Item 31	Fountain and Memorial Pool	
Inscription:	N/A	
Description and Condition:	The series of pools and waterfall and the lower reflection pool bridged by a monolithic Waratah sandstone block was designed along with the Memorial Grove, by North Shore Sydney Architect Augustus Alley, better known for his opulent Kur-ring-gai homes. It provides a focus in the Memorial Grove but is not a visually dominant element.	
Significance Rating	High Significance	
Management	Conserve the visibility of this item in the original location within the memorial grove.	
Images:		


Name	Memorial Grove Plaques and Memorials	
Item 32	AIR FORCE MEMORIAL	
Inscription:		
Description and Condition:	Bronze plate on concrete plinth. Good condition. Concealed by an overhanging shrub.	
Significance Rating	High Significance	
Management	Conserve plinth and plaque. Council will work with the Memorial Grove Group, RSL and Legacy on improving the future layout and positioning and design of plaques. Existing person plaques will be incorporated into this approach.	


Name	Memorial Grove Plaques and Memorials	
Item 33	<p style="text-align: center;">H.M.A.S. CONDAMINE</p> 	
Inscription:	<p style="text-align: center;">H.M.A.S. CONDAMINE MODIFIED RIVER CLASS FRIGATE BUILT AT STATE DOCKYARD, NEWCASTLE COMMISSIONED 22nd FEBRUARY, 1948 SERVED IN THE KOREAN WAR ETC....</p>	
Description and condition	Brass cast plate, oxidised finish, on grey granite plinth. Good condition	
Significance Rating	High Significance	
Management	<p>Conserve plinth and plaque.</p> <p>Council will work with the Memorial Grove Group, RSL and Legacy on improving the future layout and positioning and design of plaques. Existing person plaques will be incorporated into this approach.</p>	
Images:		

Name	Memorial Grove Plaques and Memorials
Item 34	Rats of Tobruk Association
Inscription:	
Description and Condition:	<p>Between April and August 1941 up to 14,000 Australians, under the command of Lieutenant-General Leslie Morshead were besieged in Tobruk by a German-Italian army commanded by General Erwin Rommel. The Allied garrison, largely Australian, included 9 Division (20, 24 and 26 Brigades), the 18 Brigade of 7 Division and four regiments of British artillery.</p> <p>The RAN service kept the garrison supplied by means of the Tobruk ferry" which included The Royal Navy and the Australian destroyers Napier, Nizam, Nestor and Vendetta. Known as the "Scrap Iron Flotilla" lost on the supply run were two destroyers including HMAS Waterhen, three sloops including HMAS Parramatta and 21 smaller vessels.</p> <p>The 2/13 Battalion was the only Australian unit left in Tobruk when the siege ended on 10 December. The Australian casualties were 3,009 killed or wounded and 941 taken prisoner.</p> <p>The German propagandist Lord Haw Haw (William Joyce) derided the troops as the "Rats of Tobruk", a term proudly embraced as an ironic compliment.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Reference: Compiled by Ray Bennett, <u>Memorial Grove Civic Park Newcastle</u>. 22nd October 2012 p71</p> <p>The cast brass plaque is mounted on the side of a stone garden edging kerb. The plaque is in fair condition. The stone has deteriorated requirs repair.</p>
Management	<p>Conserve plinth and plaque.</p> <p>Council will work with the Memorial Grove Group, RSL and Legacy on improving the future layout and positioning and design of plaques. Existing person plaques will be incorporated into this approach.</p>
Significance Rating	High Significance

Name	Memorial Grove Plaques and Memorials	
Item 35	PURKISS. C.,	
Inscription:	WIREMAN CECIL PURKISS R.A.N. KILLED IN ACTION 1941	
Description and Condition:	Bronze plate on stone plinth. Damaged plinth on the upper left hand corner.	
Significance Rating	High Significance	
Management	Conserve plinth and plaque. Council will work with the Memorial Grove Group, RSL and Legacy on improving the future layout and positioning and design of plaques. Existing person plaques will be incorporated into this approach.	
Images:		



Name	Memorial Grove Plaques and Memorials	
Item 36	McKENNA. A. K.,	
Inscription:	LANCE SGT ANGUS K. MCKENNA BRITISH ARMY KILLED TANK ACCIDENT 1945	
Description and Condition:	Bronze plate on sandstone plinth. Damage to top right hand corner of plinth.	
Significance Rating	High Significance	
Management	Conserve plinth and plaque. Council will work with the Memorial Grove Group, RSL and Legacy on improving the future layout and positioning and design of plaques. Existing person plaques will be incorporated into this approach.	
Images:		

Name	Memorial Grove Plaques and Memorials	
Item 37	NEWCASTLE RED CROSS	
Inscription:	NEWCASTLE RED CROSS CITY BRANCH	
Description and Condition:	Bronze plate on sandstone plinth. Damage to the lower right hand side of the plinth	
Significance Rating	High Significance	
Management	<p>Conserve plinth and plaque.</p> <p>Council will work with the Memorial Grove Group, RSL and Legacy on improving the future layout and positioning and design of plaques. Existing person plaques will be incorporated into this approach.</p>	
Images:		


Name	Memorial Grove Plaques and Memorials	
Item 38	SWAIN. A.J.,	
Inscription:	SPR ARTHUR J. SWAIN 2/1 FLD. COY A.I. F. EX P.O.W. GERMANY 25.3.76	
Description and Condition:	Bronze plate on sandstone plinth. Good condition.	
Significance Rating	High Significance	
Management	Conserve plinth and plaque. Council will work with the Memorial Grove Group, RSL and Legacy on improving the future layout and positioning and design of plaques. Existing person plaques will be incorporated into this approach.	
Images:		


Name	Memorial Grove Plaques and Memorials
Item 39	MEMORIAL GROVE DEDICATION ON STONE SEAT WALL THE VICTORIA LEAGUE (NEWCASTLE BRANCH) WAR WORKERS REGISTER The names record a combined voluntary effort during World War II

Inscription:	<p>Left Hand Column Australian Comforts Fund Adult Deaf and Dumb Society Business and Professional Women's Club BHP Girls Church Army Women's Auxiliary City Council Women's Patriotic Auxiliary Church of England League of Patriotic Services 2KO Cherrio Club Christian Science War Comforts Committee Country Women's Association Commonwealth Steel Co Staff Girls Do A Little Club Mrs W J Stelzers 2GB Happiness Clubs Adamstown, Hamilton, Merewether Hustlers Patriotic and Welfare Club Hustlers Pty Ltd Marcus Clark's Employees Club National Council of Jewish Women 'Newcastle Branch' National Emergency Services Aid Posts and Ambulance Drivers Newcastle Hospital Women's Auxiliary Newcastle and District Red Cross Convalescent Home Auxiliary Police Women's Auxiliary /Newcastle Voluntary Workers/</p> <p>Centre Column The Victoria League /Newcastle Branch/ The Victoria Club for Servicemen and Women American Centre Officers Centre Merchant Navy Bureau Cigarette Fund /for Overseas League/ Spinning Circle Comforts Fund Welfare Club Hospitality Committee Wives and Mothers of Servicemen's Committee Mobile Canteen Merchant Navy Auxiliary of the Victoria League Organising Committee West Wallsend Patriotic League /1st Auxiliary of the Victoria League/ East Lambton Auxiliary of the Victoria League Lysaghts Excelsior Welfare Club Young Contingent of the Victoria League</p> <p>Right hand Column Rotary Club Newcastle Retail Traders Association of NSW /Newcastle Branch/ R.S.S. and A.I.L.A. Women's Auxiliary Lambton-New Lambton Sub-Branch Merewether Sub-Branch Newcastle Sub-Branch R.A.A.F. Comforts Fund R.A.A.F. Younger Set /Newcastle Branch/ Red Cross Society Newcastle Branch Hamilton and Younger Set New Lambton, Stockton Waratah - Mayfield Wallsend, Merewether Red Cross Special Functions Auxiliary Carrington P.O.W. 1st Newcastle V.A.D. 236 2nd Newcastle V.A.D. 822 3rd Newcastle V.A.D. 903 St Andrews Presbyterian Service League Scotts Staff Patriotic Club Water Board Welfare Committee /Newcastle/ Wesley Women's Service League</p>
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	Women's Australian National Service Y.M.C.A.	
Description and Condition:	Bronze plate on sandstone wall, with seat inset into recess formed by wall. Good condition.	
Significance Rating	High Significance	
Management	Conserve plinth and plaque. Maintain timber seat and paint in appropriate colour such as Dark Brunswick Green or replace with timber to match existing with oiled timber finish.	
Images:	 	


Name	Memorial Grove Plaques and Memorials	
Item 40	MACDONALD. V.J.,	
Inscription:	VICTOR J. MACDONALD DONKEYMAN MERCHANT ANVY TORPEDOED 1942	
Description and Condition:	Bronze plate on sandstone plinth. Good condition.	
Significance Rating	High Significance	
Management	Conserve plinth and plaque. Council will work with the Memorial Grove Group, RSL and Legacy on improving the future layout and positioning and design of plaques. Existing person plaques will be incorporated into this approach.	
Images:		


Name	Memorial Grove Plaques and Memorials	
Item 41	CROFT. C.R.,	
Inscription:	F./O. CEDRIC R. CROFT R.A.A.F. KILLED IN ACTION 1943	
Description and Condition:	Bronze plate on sandstone plinth. Good condition.	
Significance Rating	High Significance	
Management	Conserve plinth and plaque. Council will work with the Memorial Grove Group, RSL and Legacy on improving the future layout and positioning and design of plaques. Existing person plaques will be incorporated into this approach.	
Images:		


Name	Memorial Grove Plaques and Memorials	
Item 42	BRUCE. J.,	
Inscription:	<p style="text-align: center;">LIEUT. JAMES BRUCE D.C.M. ,M.C. A.I.F. KILLED IN ACTION 1918</p>	
Description and Condition:	Bronze plate on sandstone plinth. Good condition.	
Significance Rating	High Significance	
Management	<p>Conserve plinth and plaque.</p> <p>Council will work with the Memorial Grove Group, RSL and Legacy on improving the future layout and positioning and design of plaques. Existing person plaques will be incorporated into this approach.</p>	
Images:		


Name	Memorial Grove Seat	
Item Seat 3	Park Seating	
Inscription:	N/A	
Description and Condition:	Stainless steel frame with hardwood stained slats fixed to a concrete paving base.	
Significance Rating	Little Significance	
Management	<p>Conserve plinth and plaque.</p> <p>Council will work with the Memorial Grove Group, RSL and Legacy on improving the future layout and positioning and design of seats.</p>	
Images:		


Name	Memorial Grove Plaques and Memorials	
Item 43	LYNE. A.V.	
Inscription:	S/SGT. ARTHUR V. LYNE A.I.F. DIED ON ACTIVE SERVICE 1945	
Description and Condition:	Bronze plate on sandstone plinth. Good condition.	
Significance Rating	High Significance	
Management	<p>Conserve plinth and plaque.</p> <p>Council will work with the Memorial Grove Group, RSL and Legacy on improving the future layout and positioning and design of plaques. Existing person plaques will be incorporated into this approach.</p>	
Images:		

Name	Memorial Grove Plaques and Memorials	
Item 44	MAHONY. J.	
Inscription:	PRIVATE JOHN MAHONY A.I.F. PRISONER OF WAR 1943	
Description and Condition:	Bronze plate on sandstone plinth. Some peripheral damage to the plinth.	
Significance Rating	High Significance	
Management	<p>Conserve plinth and plaque.</p> <p>Council will work with the Memorial Grove Group, RSL and Legacy on improving the future layout and positioning and design of plaques. Existing person plaques will be incorporated into this approach.</p>	
Images:		


Name	Memorial Grove Plaques and Memorials	
Item 45	FLEMING. G.	
Inscription:	PRIVATE GEORGE FLEMING A.I.F. DIED OF WOUNDS 1917	
Description and Condition:	Bronze plate on sandstone plinth. Good condition.	
Significance Rating	High Significance	
Management	Conserve plinth and plaque. Council will work with the Memorial Grove Group, RSL and Legacy on improving the future layout and positioning and design of plaques. Existing person plaques will be incorporated into this approach.	
Images:		


Name	Memorial Grove Plaques and Memorials	
Item 46	NOBLE. C. T.	
Inscription:	R.P.O. CHARLES T. NOBLE R.A.N. KILLED IN ACTION 1941	
Description and Condition:	Bronze plate on sandstone plinth. Good condition.	
Significance Rating	High Significance	
Management	<p>Conserve plinth and plaque.</p> <p>Council will work with the Memorial Grove Group, RSL and Legacy on improving the future layout and positioning and design of plaques. Existing person plaques will be incorporated into this approach.</p>	
Images:		


Name	Memorial Grove Plaques and Memorials	
Item 47	GRANT. J.	
Inscription:	JOHN GRANT LIEUTENANT R.A.N. 1981	
Description and Condition:	Bronze plate on concrete plinth. Good condition.	
Significance Rating	High Significance	
Management	<p>Conserve plinth and plaque.</p> <p>Council will work with the Memorial Grove Group, RSL and Legacy on improving the future layout and positioning and design of plaques. Existing person plaques will be incorporated into this approach.</p>	
Images:		

Name	Memorial Grove Plaques and Memorials	
Item 48	NEWCASTLE MISSIONS TO SEAMEN	
Inscription:	NEWCASTLE MISSIONS TO SEAMEN HARBOUR LIGHTS GUILD	
Description and Condition:	Bronze plate on concrete plinth. General peripheral deterioration of the plinth	
Significance Rating	High Significance	
Management	Conserve plinth and plaque. Council will work with the Memorial Grove Group, RSL and Legacy on improving the future layout and positioning and design of plaques. Existing person plaques will be incorporated into this approach.	
Images:		


Name	Memorial Grove Plaques and Memorials	
Item 49	NAVAL ASSOCIATION	
Inscription:	ERECTED BY THE NAVAL ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA NEWCASTLE SUB-SECTION IN MEMORY OF THOSE NAVAL PERSONNEL LOST IN WORLD WAR I AND WORLD WAR II AND IN VIETNAM	
Description and Condition:	Brass cast plaque on concrete plinth. Monument includes an anchor and chain, all mounted on a concrete hob.	
Significance Rating	High Significance	
Management	Conserve plinth and plaque. Council will work with the Memorial Grove Group, RSL and Legacy on improving the future layout and positioning and design of plaques. Existing person plaques will be incorporated into this approach.	
Images:		


Name	Memorial Grove Plaques and Memorials	
Item 50	VIETNAM	
Inscription:	VIETNAM 1962-1972 THOSE WHO GAVE THEIR ALL LEST WE FORGET	
Description and Condition:	Etched/engraved black granite slab on brown rock faced brick pier. The pier is not of monumental quality in the selected brick. Sited on sandstone paving the monument would be enhanced by a more noble material selection for the base eg. Sandstone in a rubble array.	
Significance Rating	High Significance	Likely to be the first Vietnam War Memorial in Australia.
Management	Conserve the inscribed granite tablet. Provide a more suitable pier that conserves the granite tablet.	
Images:		


Name	Memorial Grove Plaques and Memorials	
Item 51	AUSTRALIAN WOMENS ARMY SERVICE	
Inscription:	REMEMBERING THOSE WHO SERVED IN THE AUSTRALIAN WOMENS ARMY SERVICE 1942-1947	
Description and Condition:	Bronze plate on stone plinth. Damage to top right hand side of the plinth.	
Significance Rating	High Significance	
Management	Conserve plinth and plaque. Council will work with the Memorial Grove Group, RSL and Legacy on improving the future layout and positioning and design of plaques. Existing person plaques will be incorporated into this approach.	
Images:		


Name	Memorial Grove Plaques and Memorials	
Item 52	MCNEIL. L.	
Inscription:	LIEUT. LES MCNEIL A.I.F. KILLED IN ACTION 1945	
Description and Condition:	Bronze plate on concrete plinth. General peripheral deterioration of the plinth.	
Significance Rating	High Significance	
Management	Conserve plinth and plaque. Council will work with the Memorial Grove Group, RSL and Legacy on improving the future layout and positioning and design of plaques. Existing person plaques will be incorporated into this approach.	
Images:		

Name	Memorial Grove Plaques and Memorials	
Item 53	PETERS. W.T.	
Inscription:	P/O WALTER T. PETERS R.A.A.F. KILLED IN ACTION 1944	
Description and Condition:	Bronze plate on concrete plinth. Good condition.	
Significance Rating	High Significance	
Management	<p>Conserve plinth and plaque.</p> <p>Council will work with the Memorial Grove Group, RSL and Legacy on improving the future layout and positioning and design of plaques. Existing person plaques will be incorporated into this approach.</p>	
Images:		

Name	Memorial Grove Plaques and Memorials	
Item 54	PARSONS. J. W.	
Inscription:	DRIVER JOHN W. PARSONS A.I.F. PRISONER OF WAR 1945	
Description and Condition:	Bronze plate on stone plinth. General peripheral deterioration of the plinth. Damage to top right hand side.	
Significance Rating	High Significance	
Management	Conserve plinth and plaque. Council will work with the Memorial Grove Group, RSL and Legacy on improving the future layout and positioning and design of plaques. Existing person plaques will be incorporated into this approach.	
Images:		

Name	Memorial Grove Plaques and Memorials	
Item 55	R.A.A.F. Memorial	
Description and Condition:	<p>The R.A.A.F. memorial was unveiled in 1967 and the ceremony included the Anglican Bishop, a Catholic priest, 20 R.A.A.F. servicemen from Williamtown R.A.A.F. Base as a Guard of Honour.</p> <p><i>The Memorial comprises a sandstone tapered column 3.0 metres in height, surmounted by a 'Wedgetail Eagle', carved from a solid block of 'Ravensworth' sandstone which stands majestically 1.2 metres above the top of the column. (source: Bennett, Memorial Grove Civic Park Newcastle, p.49.)</i></p> <p>Sculptured by Don McHattie, who was himself in the RAAF, from sandstone donated by Newcastle City Council and commissioned by the Newcastle Branch of the Air Force Association. (source: Bennett, Memorial Grove Civic Park Newcastle, p.49.)</p> <p>This Memorial includes also a flagpole and plaque erected by the Western Suburbs Leagues Club in 1967 and dedicated to the Newcastle Air Force Association.</p> <p>In 1968 a bronze wreath was fixed to the R.A.A.F. monument in honour of the W.A.A.A.F. Association.</p>	
Significance Rating	High Significance	
Management	<p>Conserve memorial and plaques.</p> <p>Conserve this memorial in the original location within the memorial grove. Retain the visibility of this item from within Civic Park and the visual axis from the central axis as identified in figure 7a.</p>	
<p>Image RAAF Memorial</p> <p>Michael Williams May 2016</p>		

<p>Bronze plaque Inscription: <i>The R.A.A.F. Wedgetail Eagle</i> <i>Aquila Audax (Noble Bird)</i> <i>The eagle has stood for courage and bravery ever since the time of the Roman Legions and is a worthy representative of the R.A.A.F. as portrayed on the service badge. The eagle portrayed on the coloumn id directly carved from a solid block of local sandstone and is in repose having the wings folded in memory of the dead.</i></p>	
<p>Wreath</p>	
<p>Emblem</p>	

Name	Memorial Grove	
Tree 88	<i>Waterhousia floribunda</i> – Weeping Lilly Pilly	
Description and Condition:	This tree is part of the Memorial Grove plantings but has dieback and deadwood in crown.	
Curtilage	The tree is only visible within Memorial Grove	
Significance Rating	Little Significance	This tree has little significance and can be removed and not be replaced.
Management	The ongoing management of the trees will be addressed as part of a Tree Succession Planting Strategy in a Public Domain Plan.	
Images		

CIVIC PARK, NEWCASTLE
 CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT PLAN: INVENTORIES

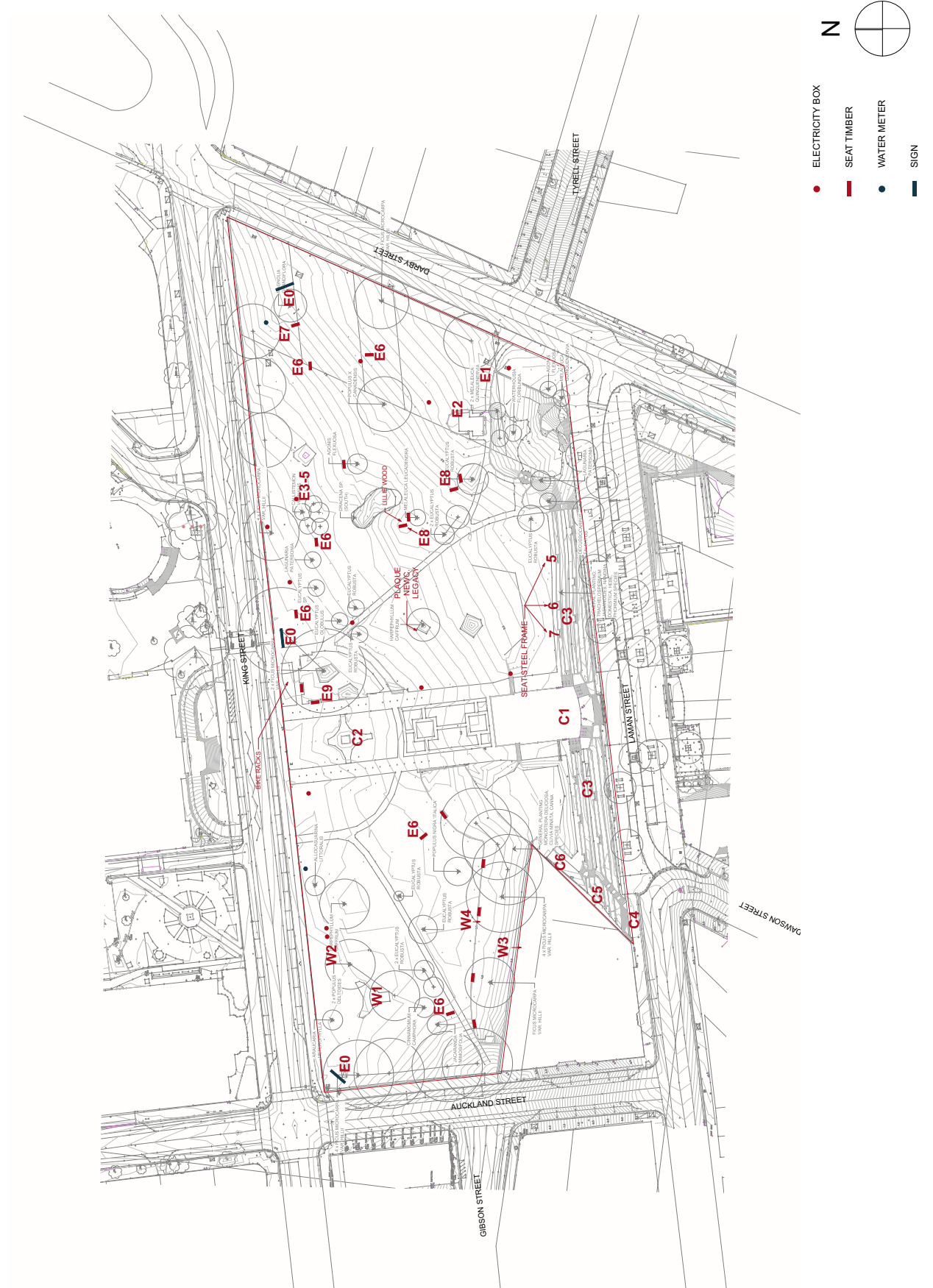


Figure 3b Key Plan of built items in Civic Park

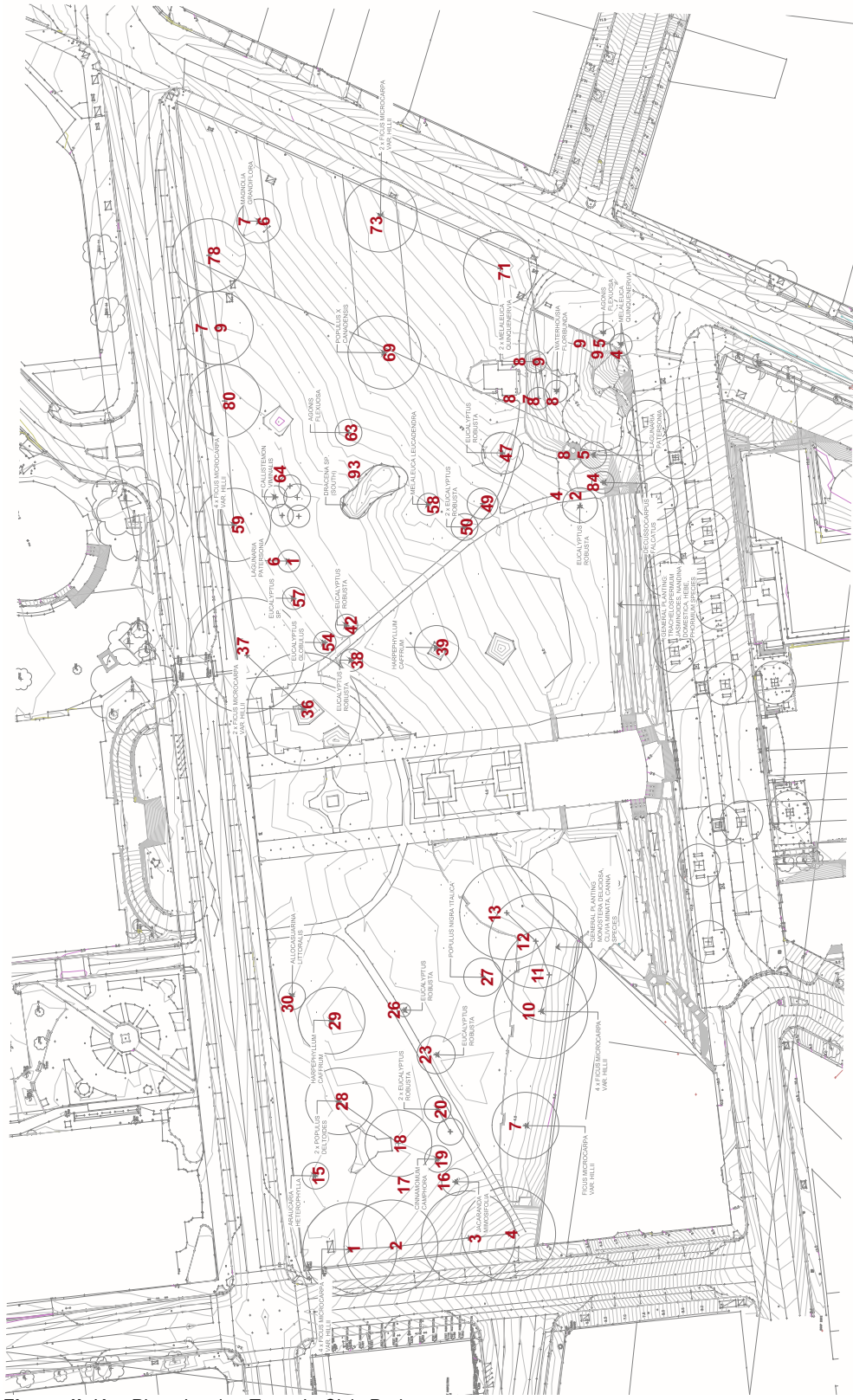
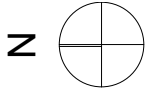


Figure 4b Key Plan showing Trees in Civic Park

Name	Western Section	
Description and Condition:	<p>The section of the park is shown in the 1896 plan as including two sheds and a building to the rear of St Andrews Presbyterian Church that may have been a stable. This area to the north of St Andrew's Presbyterian Church was leased from the AAC by the church for use as a horse paddock and stables.¹ The area was also used as a timber yard by Andrew Cooks (destroyed by fire in 1908) prior to 1929 and P.W. Russell and Company, windmill manufacturers.</p> <p>The first parcels of land that were to make up the future Civic Park were purchased at the western end between King Street and St Andrews in 1929 not for a park but for the purpose of administrative buildings related to Newcastle electricity.² But by 1934 at least, this land seems to have been planted with new trees as part of the first step in the process of creating a park when W. Grant from Sydney's Botanic Gardens prepared a layout for a section of land to the west of what was still a working coal line.³ In 1938 two more parcels of land were purchased on the other side of the then Burwood railway line between Laman and King St.⁴ However, it was not until 1958 that Newcastle City Council acquired the remaining coal line allowing these parcels to be continuous.⁵</p> <p>This section of the park may have included a branch line for the AAC which is evident on plan only and no photographic evidence of this railway line has been found.</p> <p>In the WWII period the area "opposite the City Hall" was also used for air raid trenches.⁶ The western precinct is therefore the original section of the park. The built elements within the western precinct include the Vietnam War Memorial, raised garden beds and paths.</p> <p>The western precinct is in good condition and well maintained.</p>	
Curtilage	The curtilage of Civic Park is the lot boundary of Civic Park, including the Signalman's Cottage and the Burwood Coal and Copper Company tunnel and overbridge. Refer to curtilage plan (figure 5a) Section 8.	
Significance Rating	High Significance	The western precinct as a whole. note: The significance of items within have been assessed in separate inventories.
	European Archaeological Potential:	Refer to Appendix E, (3.2 Discussion of Archaeological Potential and figure 3.28)
	• Low Archaeological Potential	Area D – area of fountain and terrace as shown in figure 3.28 (Appendix E)
	• Moderate to High Archaeological Potential	Area A – Refer to figure 3.28 (Appendix E)
Management	Refer to Conservation Policy for detailed recommendations in Section 10.	
Plans	<p>Figure 1b Plan showing division of site into sections for the purpose of this study</p> <p>Figure 3b Key Plan of built items in Civic Park</p> <p>Figure 4b Key Plan showing Trees in Civic Park</p>	

¹ Hunter, *Newcastle Civic and Cultural Precinct Historical Development* (Newcastle City Council, 2002)


² Entertainment Committee, Report of Town Clerk No 24.

³ *Laman Street Fig Trees Cooks Hill*, p.9 & Barney, *The first 200 years*, p.77.

⁴ Entertainment Committee, Report of Town Clerk No 24.

⁵ Entertainment Committee, Report of Town Clerk No 24.

⁶ *Newcastle Morning Herald*, 16th December 1941, p.2. (Credit for pointing this usage out goes to AMAC.)

Name	Vietnam War Memorial	
Item W1		
Description and Condition:	<p>The Vietnam War Memorial was dedicated in 1987. The memorial was proposed by the Newcastle Vietnam Legion and funded by the community of the Hunter Valley. It was designed by the architects Suters, Busted , Corner and Clode.</p> <p>The memorial is constructed in granite and concrete. The memorial is symmetrically designed with two flanking sections that open to a central axis. The flanking walls are diagonal in plan form and taper in height in elevation. Each wall is finished with a rough textured render and granite tiles. There are two flagpoles located on the north and south of the central axis. A sandstone block is placed on the north end and three separate concrete blocks on the north, which include memorial plaques. The concrete blocks are partially clad with granite tiles. The memorial is within a turfed area of the park with hard paved area in the central axis of the memorial. The latter includes the word Vietnam inserted in bronze letters in the concrete paving.</p>	
Significance Rating	High Significance	
Management	<p>Refer to Conservation Policy for detailed recommendations in Section 10.</p> <p>Conserve the war memorial.</p>	
Images	Photographs	
View looking south		

Plaque located on sandstone block



Bronze plaque Plaque located on sandstone block
 Inscription:
 "VIETNAM WAR MEMORIAL
 NEWCASTLE LAKE MACQUARIE AND HUNTER VALLEY MEN WHO GAVE THEIR LIVES
 1962-1972
 LEST WE FORGET
 ERECTED BY THEIR NEWCASTLE VIETNAM LEGION COMRADES
 1986"



Bronze emblem located on eastern flanking wall.
Inscription:
"Royal Australian Air Force"



Bronze emblem located on eastern flanking wall.
Upper badge inscribed:
"Australian Military Forces"
Lower badge inscribed:
"Royal Australian Army Nursing Cross"



Bronze emblem located on eastern flanking wall.
Inscribed:
"Royal Australian Navy"



Bronze plaque located on western flanking wall.



Memorial located to east.

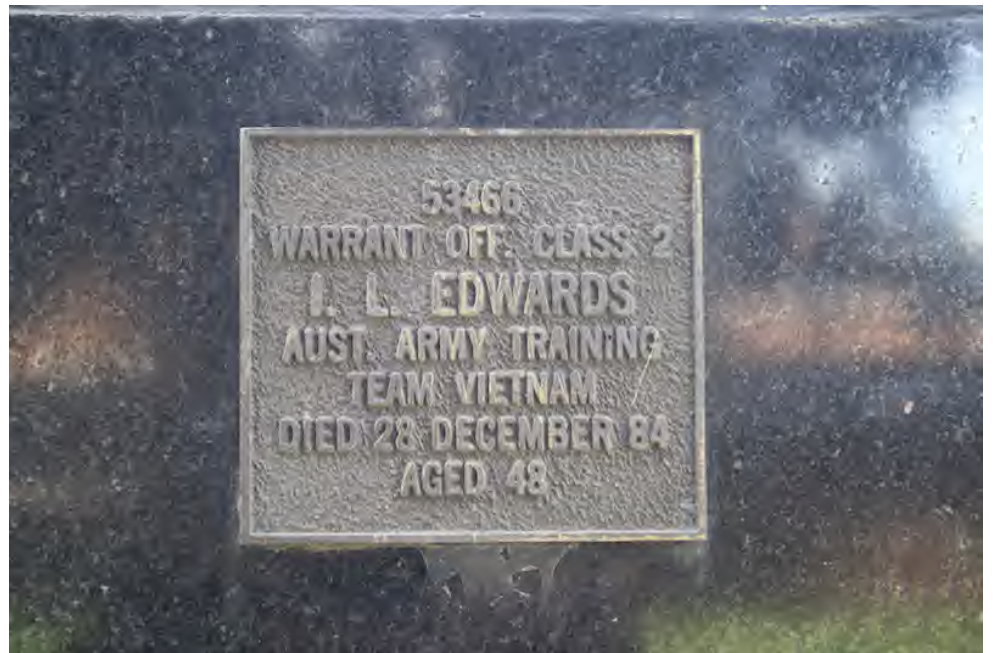


<p>Memorial located to east.</p>	
	
	

Memorial located to east.



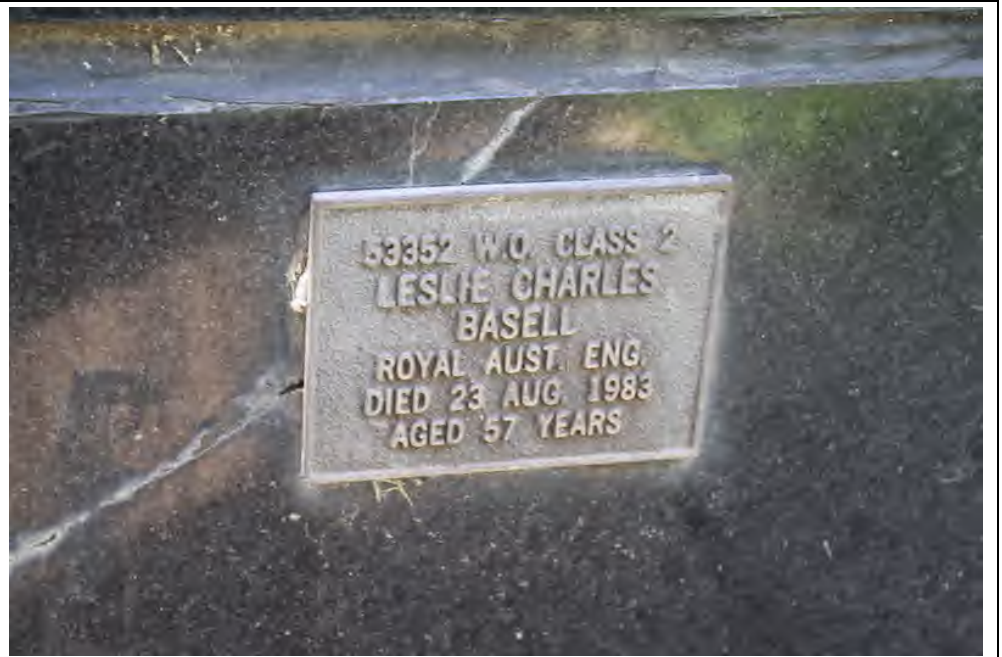
Memorial located to west.


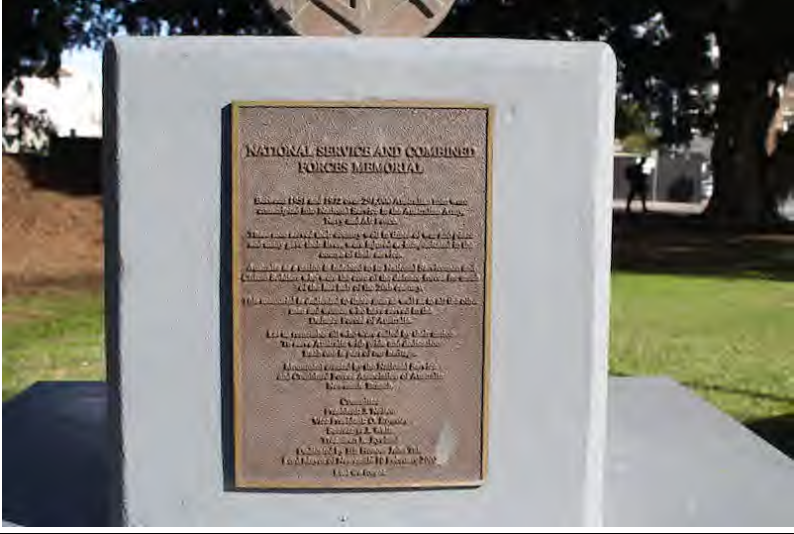



Memorial located to west.



Memorial located to west.






<p>Memorial located to the south. Concete with rendered finish and granite tile.</p>	
<p>NATIONAL SERVICE AND COMBINED FORCES MEMORIAL</p>	
<p>Bronze tablet above plinth. Inscription: NS-CFAA</p>	



Southern elevation of
memorial





Royal Australian Air Force
emblem




<p>Eastern elevation of memorial</p>	
<p>Royal Australian Navy emblem on concrete plinth. NS-CFAA located above plinth.</p>	
<p>Rising Sun emblem on the northern elevation</p>	


Name	Memorial Plaque	
Item W2		
Description and Condition:	<p>Steel plaque on concrete tablet.</p> <p>Inscription: “ THIS TREE WAS PLANTED ON 23 RD NOVEMBER 1961 BY J.H.M. EVANS Chairman THE NEWCASTLE SUB COMMITTEE STATE PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE THE FIRE & MARINE UNDERWARTERS ASSOCIATION OF N.S.W.”</p>	
Significance Rating	Moderate Significance	
Management	<p>Refer to Conservation Policy for detailed recommendations in Section 10.</p> <p>Conserve the memorial plaque Relocate stainless steel service boxes to more discreet location.</p>	
Images	Photographs	
		


Name	Fences	
Item W3		
Description and Condition:	The aluminium fence between the signalman's cottage and the park is a recent element installed in the last 10 years.	
Significance Rating	Intrusive	
Management	<p>Refer to Conservation Policy for detailed recommendations in Section 10.</p> <p>Negotiate with adjacent property owners to remove fence which detracts from the significance of the signalman's cottage.</p> <p>Consider leaving without fencing or more appropriate timber paling fence based on photographic evidence. The timber paling fence could be partial and allow visibility and access to the cottage.</p>	
Images	<p>Location Plan</p> <p>Photographs</p>	
		


Name	Garden Walls and Benches	
Item W4		
Description and Condition:	The garden walls are a recent element built after the closure of the railway in 1954	
Significance Rating	Intrusive	Garden Walls
	Little Significance	Benches
Management	<p>Refer to Conservation Policy for detailed recommendations in Section 10.</p> <p>Remove garden walls that detract from the significance of the signalman's cottage and the location of the railway line. Remove only if feasible and retaining stability of trees. Consider batter to surrounding soil.</p> <p>Interpret the railway line in this area.</p>	
Images	Photographs	
		


	
<p>Stone wall requires repair in some locations.</p>	
	


Name	Storage area for bikes and bins	
Item W5		
Description and Condition:	The garden walls are a recent element built after the closure of the railway in 1954	
Significance Rating	Intrusive	
Management	<p>Refer to Conservation Policy for detailed recommendations in Section 10.</p> <p>This is an entrance area to the park and the current use does not enhance the entrance. Good paving, fences and planting should be used to improve this area.</p> <p>Consideration could be given in the future to linking the church with the park. Remove steel fence and replace with more appropriate fence.</p> <p>Find more discreet area for bin storage. Design appropriate bins for the park.</p> <p>Provide more appropriate area for bike racks.</p>	
Images		
		


Name	WESTERN SECTION	
Trees 1,2,3,4	<i>Ficus microcarpa var.hillii</i> - Hills Weeping Fig (Auckland Street boundary)	
Description and Condition:	4 mature specimens that were planted before 1945 and possibly around the the same period as the <i>Ficus macrocarpa hillii</i> planted on the former Burwood Railway alignment. Four specimens remain of the original six planted. Condition of the groups is variable with assymetric crowns, significant structural issues exist above and below ground with pathogens affecting root systems. Trees 3 and 4 suffered stormwater damage in April 2015. Despite these structural issues the trees have strength as an aesthetic backdrop to the western section of the park .	
Curtilage	The curtilage of the trees extends across the western section of Civic Park and along King Street looking east.	
Significance Rating	These plantings are of high significance at a local level	<i>Ficus macrocarpa hillii</i> should always be planted on this significant boundary of Civic Park. These trees are a critical element of the historic plantings that characterise Civic Park. If the fig trees fail then timely replacment needs to be undertaken to maintain cultural significance of the whole park.
Management	The ongoing management of trees will be addressed as part of a Tree Succession Planting Strategy in a Public Domain Plan.	
Images		


Name	WESTERN SECTION	
Trees 7 and 10	<i>Ficus microcarpa var. hillii</i> - Hills Weeping Fig (St Andrews Cathedral boundary)	
Description and Condition:	These trees are the two remaining of a group of six that flank the boundary of Civic Park with St Andrews Cathedral. These trees are evident from about 1936 when planted on grade. In the 1960's retaining wall were built and soil topped up behind. This deep soil profile of around 500mm has caused the trees to gain new root plate and root system leading to pathogen and root rot (The Sugar Factory, 2016 P.82) . Despite structural issues the trees have a strong aesthetic presence on this important boundary of Civic Park .	
Curtilage	The curtilage is the whole of Civic Park and includes the extended area of King Street to City Hall and Laman Street to the War Memorial Cultural Centre. Refer to curtilage plan (figure 5a) Section 8.	
Significance Rating	These trees are of high significance at a local level although only 3 specimens remain of the original avenue.	<i>Ficus macrocarpa var. hillii</i> should always be planted on the significant alignment of the St Andrew Cathedral boundary These trees are a critical element of the overall significance of Civic Park. If trees fail then timely replacement of same species should be undertaken to maintain cultural significance.
Management	The ongoing management of trees will be addressed as part of a Tree Succession Planting Strategy in a Public Domain Plan.	
Images		


Name	WESTERN SECTION	
Trees 11, 12, 13	<i>Ficus microcarpa var.hillii</i> - Hills Weeping Fig	
Trees 36	<i>Ficus microcarpa var.hillii</i> - Hills Weeping Fig EASTERN SECTION (northern edge of former Burwood Railway alignment)	
Description and Condition:	<p>These are evident in 1923 and are remnant plantings from the embankment along the Burwood Rail line alignment and cut a swathe across the site from the tunnel under Laman Street to the north east corner of the site and effectively cut Civic Park into two. These trees are diminished to only three specimens with losses occurring as a result of the completion of the war memorial/fountain axis and a further two lost following the 2007 storm.</p> <p>These trees were companion plantings to the Laman Street figs now replaced and as trees planted during the same era represented a strong association with the 1930s and significant greening and beautification.</p> <p>Trees 11,12 and 13 - structural issues above and below ground with pathogens affecting root systems. The trees form wind breaks collectively and could fail if an adjacent tree is removed</p> <p>Tree 36 - Large specimen close to the Memorial Axis. Landmark tree with a clear relationship to Civic Hall and the boundary with King Street. More exposed to windloads due to the removal of some surrounding specimens.</p> <p>Despite these structural issues the trees have strength as an aesthetic backdrop to the western Section of the park.</p>	
Curtilage	The curtilage of these trees extends across the western section of Civic Park and along King Street looking east.	
Significance Rating	These plantings are of high significance at a local level	<i>Ficus hillii</i> should always be planted on this significant alignment in Civic Park. The trees are the only remnant fabric of the railway across the park and are vital to interpretation. This group is a critical element of the historic plantings that characterise Civic Park. If the fig trees fail then timely replacement needs to be undertaken to maintain cultural significance of the whole park.
Management	The ongoing management of trees will be addressed as part of a Tree Succession Planting Strategy in a Public Domain Plan.	
		


Name	WESTERN SECTION	
Trees 19 ,20, 23 and 26	Swamp Mahogany – <i>Eucalyptus robusta</i> Trees 19 ,20, 23 and 26 Western Section (northern edge of former Burwood Railway alignment)	
Trees 38,42 47,49,50 52	Swamp Mahogany – <i>Eucalyptus robusta</i> EASTERN SECTION	
Description and Condition:	<p><i>Eucalyptus robusta</i> - Swamp mahogany</p> <p>These plantings date from the 1970s form avenues on each side of the circulation paths that cross the western section from Auckland to King Street and on the eastern path from Kings Street to Memorial Grove. This species is not well suited to Civic Park. Storm damage has badly affected these trees in both 2007 and 2015 with several lost and many others damaged. The arborists report notes various symptoms of storm damage including epicormic growth and dieback (The Sugar Factory 2016)</p> <p><i>Eucalyptus robusta</i> specimens along the path alignment in the Eastern Section are generally exhibiting the same structural defects and cavities as those in the Western Section due to storm damage and branch damage. Tree 47 was more closely assessed as defective with instability, cavities and bark wounds.</p>	
Curtilage	The curtilage of these trees extends across the western section of Civic Park and along King Street looking east.	
Significance Rating	Little significance	Significance <i>Eucalyptus robusta</i> specimens across Civic Park have little cultural significance as planted later in th in Civic Park and if removed and replaced would not affect overall cultural significance.
Management	The ongoing management of trees will be addressed as part of a Tree Succession Planting Strategy in a Public Domain Plan.	
Images		


<p>Name</p>	<p>WESTERN AND EASTERN SECTIONS</p> <p><i>Harpephyllum caffrum</i> – Wild Plum</p> <p>Trees 29 and 39</p>	
<p>Trees 29 and 39</p>	<p><i>Harpephyllum caffrum</i> – Wild Plum</p>	
<p>Description and Condition:</p>	<p>This species has a long history in the park with up to four specimens planted. Two specimens remain at the western end of the park (No 29) and Tree (No 39) at the eastern end. Tree No 29 is a large specimen evident planted before 1945 and a strong visual presence in the western Section. The tree has been assessed as having structural issues with roots and branches intertwined at the base of the tree. A memorial plaque and stone base are embedded in the roots of the tree.</p> <p>Tree 39 is set back within the Eastern Section. The trees has a leaning assymetrical crown leaning to one side but has reasonable structure has been assessed as sound.</p> <p>This species was commonly used in parks during the 1940s and 1950s.</p>	
<p>Curtilage</p>	<p>The curtilage of Tree No 29 extends across the western section of Civic Park and along King Street looking east. The curtilage of Tree 39 extends across the Eastern Section of the park.</p>	
<p>Significance Rating</p>	<p>Moderate significance</p>	<p>This species is typical of park plantings from the post-war period and as the last remaining specimen in the western section park contributes to the overall tree canopy and the aesthetic qualities of the park.</p>
<p>Management</p>	<p>The ongoing management of trees will be addressed as part of a Tree Succession Planting Strategy in a Public Domain Plan.</p>	
<p>Images</p>		


Name	WESTERN SECTION	
Tree 15	<i>Araucaria heterophylla</i> - Norfolk Island Pine	
Description and Condition:	Araucaria heterophylla This tree can be located on the post 1939 and 1945 aerial photograph, is a healthy specimen and has potential longevity for up to 30 years.	
Curtilage	The curtilage for this tree extends across the western section of Civic Park, to views from City Hall to the north.	
Significance Rating	This tree is assessed of high significance at a local level for its historic and aesthetic contribution to Civic Park.	This tree is the last remaining of two <i>Araucaria cunninghamia</i> specimens in Civic Park dating from the 1940s and contributes strongly to the tree canopy and setting of Civic Park. If the <i>Araucaria</i> fails then timely replacement needs to be undertaken to maintain cultural significance.
Management	The ongoing management of trees will be addressed as part of a Tree Succession Planting Strategy in a Public Domain Plan.	
Images		


Name	WESTERN SECTION	
Tree 18 and 28	<i>Populus deltoides</i> - Cottonwood	
Description and Condition:	Populus deltoides (Tree 19 and 22) These trees are visible in the 1950 aerial photograph are historically important in the western section of the park. The deciduous canopy contributes to the shade and aesthetics of the park. With some	
Curtilage	The curtilage is the whole of Civic Park and includes the extended area of King Street to City Hall and Laman Street to the War Memorial Cultural Centre. Refer to curtilage plan (figure 5a) Section 8	
Significance Rating	Moderate significance	Trees 18 and 28 should be maintained to retain cultural significance. However if the species would be to fail then it is not considered important to replace with the same species to retain cultural significance
Management	The ongoing management of trees will be addressed as part of a Tree Succession Planting Strategy in a Public Domain Plan.	
Images	Location Plan Photographs 	

Name	WESTERN SECTION	
Tree 17	<i>Cinnamomum camphorum</i> - Camphor laurel	
Description and Condition:	This specimen is mature but lacks stature due to the close proximity of the Jacaranda planting next to it. This specimen is evident in the 1979 Vegetation Plan	
Curtilage	The curtilage is the north-western section of Civic Park.	
Significance Rating	Moderate significance	Trees 17 should be retained for cultural significance. However if the species were to fail than alternative species could be considered in its place.
Management	The ongoing management of trees will be addressed as part of a Tree Succession Planting Strategy in a Public Domain Plan.	
Images	Location Plan Photographs 	

Name	WESTERN SECTION	
Tree 16	<i>Jacaranda mimosaeifolia</i> – Jacaranda	
Description and Condition:	Located close to the Camphor laurel. The tree has been assessed to have poor form with a major canopy lean with deadwood and could be removed should this situation worsen.	
Curtilage	The curtilage is the north-western section of Civic Park	
Significance Rating	Little significance	Trees 17 contributes to the whole tree canopy and should be maintained to retain cultural significance. If the species were to fail than an alternative species could be considered for replanting.
Management	The ongoing management of trees will be addressed as part of a Tree Succession Planting Strategy in a Public Domain Plan.	
Images		


Name	WESTERN SECTION	
Tree 30	<i>Allocasuarina littoralis</i> – Black She Oak	
Description and Condition:	Located close to the Wild Plum - Tree 29. The tree has been assessed to have good form but could fail if the Wild Plum fails due to exposure to storms.	
Curtilage	The curtilage is the north-western section of Civic Park	
Significance Rating	Little significance	Trees 16 contributes generally to the tree canopy of Civic Park and should be retained to maintain cultural significance
Management	The ongoing management of trees will be addressed as part of a Tree Succession Planting Strategy in a Public Domain Plan.	
Images		

Name	WESTERN SECTION	
Tree 27	<i>Populus Italica 'Nigra'</i> - Lombardy Poplar	
Description and Condition:	This tree is generally in good condition but is closely intertwined with Figs adjacent so could fail if these trees were to be removed.	
Curtilage	The curtilage for this tree is its immediate surroundings as it is not highly visible to the rest of the Western Section.	
Significance Rating	Little significance	Trees should be maintained to retain cultural significance of the whole tree canopy. If the species were to fail than an alternative species could be considered for replanting.
Management	The ongoing management of trees will be addressed as part of a Tree Succession Planting Strategy in a Public Domain Plan.	
Images		

Name	WESTERN SECTION	
General Planting	Monostera deliciosa, Clivia minata, Canna spp. Various ground covers	
Description and Condition:	Monostera deliciosa, Clivia minata, Canna spp. Various ground covers	
Curtilage	Not applicable.	
Significance Rating	Intrusive	Significance These plantings do not contribute to cultural significance
Management	The ongoing management of trees and vegetation will be addressed as part of a Tree Succession Planting Strategy in a Public Domain Plan.	
Images		

Name	Eastern Section	
Description and Condition:	<p>This section of the park included a number of warehouses from 1918 to 1960. These included Breckenridge timber yards (damaged by fire in 1929), G.H Varleys engineering workshops (sited here from 1918) and Newcastle fibrous plaster works. In the 1940s a cricket pitch for the Police Citizens Boys Club was located in the central area. In 1945 a building was constructed for music tuition and this was added to in the 1960s. These were located on King Street and are likely to have been demolished when the Newcastle Conservatorium moved into the Salvation Army Peoples Palace on Auckland Street in 1981. In c1960 a large part of the eastern section was hard paved for a car park.</p> <p>The eastern section of the park was gradually acquired by Newcastle Council. These acquisitions occurred in 1938, 1946, 1947 (refer to Appendix B chronology of acquisitions). It is evident that the use of the land for a civic park was still not planned as in c1960 following these acquisitions a large part of the eastern section was hard paved for a car park, though this proved to be temporary. In 1964 the final parcels adjoining Darby Street were purchased that allowed the whole site between King and Laman Streets and bounded by Darby and Auckland Streets to be envisaged as Civic Park.¹ It was not until 1979 that Civic Park was dedicated as a Public Reserve.</p> <p>The built elements within the eastern precinct include the toilet block, totem poles, raised garden beds and paths.</p> <p>The eastern precinct is in good condition and well maintained.</p>	
Curtilage	<p>The curtilage of Civic Park is the lot boundary of Civic Park, including the Signalman's Cottage and the Burwood Coal and Copper Company tunnel and overbridge. Refer to curtilage plan (figure 5a) Section 8.</p>	
Significance Rating	High Significance	<p>The eastern precinct as a whole. note: The significance of items within have been assessed in separate inventories.</p>
	Archaeological Potential:	Refer to Appendix E, (3.2 Discussion of Archaeological Potential), Figure 3.28
	• Low Archaeological Potential	Area B - Refer to figure 3.28 (Appendix E)
	• High Archaeological Potential	Area C - Refer to figure 5.28 (Appendix E)
Management	Refer to Conservation Policy for detailed recommendations in Section 10.	
Plans	<p>Figure 1b Plan showing division of site into sections for the purpose of this study Figure 3b Key Plan of built items in Civic Park Figure 4b Key Plan showing Trees in Civic Park</p>	

¹ Entertainment Committee, Report of Town Clerk No 24 & Laman Street Fig Trees Cooks Hill, p.9.

Name	Identification Signage	
Item E0	Park identification sign grouped with a Magnolia and a park bench seat on the north western section of the site.	
Description and Condition:	The tree has a memorial dedication that is buried in mulch. Recent sign in good condition.	
Significance Rating		
	Sign	Little The signs are not an appropriate introduction to the Park on the basis of its importance within the city. Consideration should be given to a more formal sign that is consistent with the design for interpretation.
	Memorial Plaque	Moderate The Memorial Plaque, as for all other plaques marking dedications or civic occasions are significant for their individual merits however they are not of great significance to the park, apart from the significant trees (in some instances) with which they are aligned.
Images:		





Typical of plaques in the park, obscured by mulch or overgrown by shrubs. Most are not readily legible.




YESTERDAY TO-DAY THE FUTURE
In Memory of
KANICHI NAKAYUSU
UBE NEWCASTLE
28th FEBRUARY 1984


This refers to the sister city arrangement that has been established since November 21, 1980.

Name	Garden Walls	
Item E1		
Description and Condition:	Sandstone walls with mortar joints - retaining soil for garden beds	
Significance Rating	Little Significance	
Management	Refer to Conservation Policy for detailed recommendations in Section 10. Demolish if no longer required	
Images:		



Name	Toilet Block	
Item E2		
Description and Condition:	The toilet block is a sandstone structure with a concrete slab roof. It includes male and female toilets.	
Significance Rating	Intrusive	
Management	Refer to Conservation Policy in Section 10. Demolish if no longer required as assessed as intrusive item that obscures significance of the park. The Civic Park Public Domain Plan will address the design and location of the toilet block within Civic Park.	
Images:		
		


Name	Totems	
Item E3-5	5 x Totems arranged in a star pattern.	
Inscription:	The purpose of the totems is not as yet known	
Description and Condition:	<p>There are 5 totems made out of sections resembling terra cotta pipes. They have been (conjecturally) specifically made for the purpose.</p> <p>They are arranged at four perimeter locations and one centrally located within a stone paved area that appears to have been originally established as a group of raised annual planting beds.</p> <p>Planting within the area comprises mature Callistemon salignus that as a group form a copse of tall shrubs, set within the open grassed area near the eastern King Street alignment of the Park.</p>	
Significance Rating	Little	The source of the totems is unknown. It is assumed that they first saw life as a result of the Mattara Festival.
	Moderate	Paving – this is assessed as earlier fabric than the totems as it is evident in the 1970 plan.
Management	<p>Refer to Conservation Policy in Section 10.</p> <p>Conserve paving and remove totems from site if no longer required as assessed as item of little significance.</p>	
Images:		


			
			
			


Name	Park Furniture –Picnic setting	
Item E6		
Inscription:		
Description and Condition:		
Significance Rating	Intrusive	This style of park furniture is used extensively throughout the LGA. It is suggested that the Civic Park elements be relocated to suburban parks that have been depleted of similar furniture. Consideration should be given furniture designed specific to Civic Park. Furniture design and location will be incorporated in the Civic Park Domain Plan.
Management	It is suggested that the Civic Park elements be relocated to suburban parks that have been depleted of similar furniture. Civic Park is to have specific designed furniture.	
Images:		


Name	Park Furniture – Bench seating	
Item E7		
Description and Condition:	Galvanised steel supports with timber boards for seat and back. Good condition	
Significance Rating	Intrusive	This style of park furniture is used extensively throughout the LGA. It is suggested that the Civic Park elements be relocated to suburban parks that have been depleted of similar furniture. Civic Park is to have uniquely designed furniture.
Management	It is suggested that the Civic Park elements be relocated to suburban parks that have been depleted of similar furniture. Consideration should be given furniture designed specific to Civic Park. Furniture design and location will be incorporated in the Civic Park Domain Plan.	
Images:		


Name	Park Furniture – Bench seating	
Item E8		
Description and Condition:	Timber bench seat	
Inscription	In memory of Lillie Wood 1918 – 2007 <i>"Lillie of the Valley"</i> From her Friends	
Significance Rating	Moderate	
Management	Refer to Section 10 for detailed conservation policy recommendations. Retain in Cooks Hill area as Lillie was a well known local resident.	
Images:		
		


Name	Park Furniture – Bench seating	
Item E9		
Description and Condition:	Timber bench seat with metal plaque	
Inscription	<p style="text-align: center;">PARKS AND GARDENS SOCIAL CLUB IN MEMORY OF OUR LATE MEMBER TROOPER E.L. WHALAN 2/6 TH.COMMANDAO SQUADRON KILLED IN ACTION BALIKPAPAN JULY 1945</p>	
Significance Rating	Moderate	
Management	Refer to Conservation Policy in Section 10. Conserve and retain in Civic Park.	
Images:		


Name	Vent Pipe	
Item E10		
Description and Condition:	Metal pipe painted green.	
Significance Rating	Intrusive	
Management	Refer to Conservation Policy in Section 10 Plant tree in vicinity to conceal vent pipe.	
Images:		


Name	Memorial Plaque	
Item E11		
Description and Condition:	Stone tablet and bronze plaque. Good condition	
Significance Rating	High	
Management	Refer to Conservation Policy in Section 10 Plant tree in vicinity to conceal vent pipe	
<p>Images: Inscription:</p> <p>THIS TREE WAS PLANTED TO COMMEMORATE THE 50th YEAR OF NEWCASTLE LEGACY 1932 1982</p>		


Name	EASTERN SECTION	
Trees 93	<i>Dracena draco</i> - Dragon Trees x 3	
Description and Condition:	<p>These three specimens are some of the most robust of all the plants in the park and have withstood storms and poor soil conditions and have a high ranking for longevity. Situated in a garden bed these planting are surrounded by sandstone blocks imitating a dry garden. The trees have good form and structure and may live up to 30 years (The Sugar Factory, 2016)</p>	
Curtilage	<i>Dracena dracos</i> are visible across the eastern section and are strongly visible within the sightlines of the park.	
Significance Rating	Moderate significance	Cultural Significance As a group, the <i>Dracena draco</i> specimens have moderate aesthetic significance. The date of planting is not clear but a garden bed is shown on the 1979 plan
Management	The ongoing management of trees will be addressed as part of a Tree Succession Planting Strategy in a Public Domain Plan.	
Images		


Name	EASTERN SECTION	
Tree 59, 71, 73 (photo not included), 78, 79, 80	<i>Ficus microcarpa var. hillii</i> – Hills Weeping Fig	
Description and Condition:	These trees are located at the eastern end of King Street boundary and on Darby Street. Planted in between 2001 and 2005 the trees are healthy specimens close to the boundaries. Council has some concerns about the proximity of infrastructure to these specimens in the long term.	
Curtilage	Visible across King Street towards Civic Park east.	
Significance Rating	Moderate significance	Cultural Significance these trees contribute to the overall of aesthetic significance of Civic Park and are representative of the species
Management	The ongoing management of trees will be addressed as part of a Tree Succession Planting Strategy in a Public Domain Plan.	
Images		


Name	EASTERN SECTION	
Tree 54	<i>Eucalyptus globulus</i> – Southern Blue Gum	
Description and Condition:	This specimen is large but has an asymmetric crown growing on a lean. The eucalypt is close to the adjacent tree and there is insufficient space for full crown development. (The Sugar factory, 2016, p.48)	
Curtilage	Limited to around the tree itself.	
Significance Rating	Little significance	This tree contributes to the significance of the overall tree canopy
Management	The ongoing management of trees will be addressed as part of a Tree Succession Planting Strategy in a Public Domain Plan.	
Images		


Name	EASTERN SECTION	
Tree 57	<i>Eucalyptus sp.</i> – Ironbark	
Description and Condition:	This tree is a large specimen with the most significant canopy of all the Eucalypts in the park. The arborist has detected some dieback and dead wood in the canopy so the tree requires some remedial work (The Sugar Factory, 2016, 0.49)	
Curtilage	This tree has a strong visual presence across the eastern section of Civic Park	
Significance Rating	Moderate significance	This tree contributes to the overall tree canopy and if it fails consideration should be given to replacement with a similar species.
Management	The ongoing management of trees will be addressed as part of a Tree Succession Planting Strategy in a Public Domain Plan.	
Images		


Name	EASTERN SECTION	
Trees 61, 85	<i>Lagunaria patersonia</i> – Norfolk Island Hibiscus	
Description and Condition:	<p>Tree 61: This specimen is generally typical of the form and species and the canopy contributes to whole place. The tree has been assessed as possibly only surviving for between 5 to 15 years.</p> <p>Tree 85: Very poor form, crown suppressed and asymmetric from growing up beneath adjacent more dominant trees, recently removed. Could be at risk of failure now windbreak trees gone. Root growth disrupting flagstones in garden area. Commemorative plaque at base (photograph below) Assessed for short term removal due to poor form, suppressed crown and roots creating pavement heave.</p>	
Curtilage	Tree 61 has a strong visual presence across the eastern section.	
Significance Rating	Little significance	Significance Tree 61 and 85 contribute to the overall tree canopy but if they fail consideration could be given to not replacing them in the future.
Management	The ongoing management of trees will be addressed as part of a Tree Succession Planting Strategy in a Public Domain Plan.	
Images		


Name	EASTERN SECTION	
Tree 64	<i>Callistemon viminalis</i> – Weeping Bottlebrush	
Description and Condition:	This group of Callistemon are part of the setting for totem poles community artwork. These trees are already mature and assessed to last 5 to 15 years. If the totem poles are removed then these trees can be removed.	
Curtilage	The trees form part of the setting of the totem poles and the curtilage is the immediate area around the trees.	
Significance Rating	Low significance	Significance These trees are fairly recent plantings and can be removed if the totem poles are removed.
Management	The ongoing management of trees will be addressed as part of a Tree Succession Planting Strategy in a Public Domain Plan.	
Images		


Name	EASTERN SECTION	
Tree 63, 95	<i>Agonis flexuosa</i> – West Australian Willow Myrtle	
Description and Condition:	<p>Tree 63 - This tree was evident in the 1979 survey of the park but the canopy is thinning from dieback and there is evidence of decay in the main stem (The Sugar Factory , 2016, p53)</p> <p>Tree 95 - This tree is in the Memorial Grove, is a young specimen and was planted in the last ten years. It is good health and form and could last up to 30 years.</p>	
Curtilage	Tree 63 is a prominent specimen in the eastern section and can be appreciated from King Street. Tree 95 contributes to the setting of Memorial Grove	
Significance Rating	<p>Tree 63 – Moderate significance</p> <p>Tree 95 – Moderate significance</p>	<p>Significance moderate as this tree is shown on the 1979 survey, and was therefore an original planting in the eastern section of the park. It is one of the early plantings of the park and could be replaced if it fails in the short term</p> <p>The <i>Agonis flexuosa</i> contributes to the aesthetic setting of the Memorial Grove and is a healthy specimen that should be retained.</p>
Management	The ongoing management of trees will be addressed as part of a Tree Succession Planting Strategy in a Public Domain Plan.	
Images		

Name	EASTERN SECTION	
Tree 69	<i>Populus x canadensis</i> – Hybrid Black Poplar	
Description and Condition:	This tree has a strong visual presence in the eastern section of Civic Park. The tree has seasonal visual appeal with large leaves in summer and autumn colour It is one of two specimens of this species that were once in Civic Park the other tree is now removed.	
Curtilage	The curtilage of this tree is across the eastern section and has strong visual presence across Civic Park from Darby Street.	
Significance Rating	Moderate significance	This tree strongly contributes to the overall tree canopy of Civic park and replacement could be considered if the tree were to fail.
Management	The ongoing management of trees will be addressed as part of a Tree Succession Planting Strategy in a Public Domain Plan.	
Images		

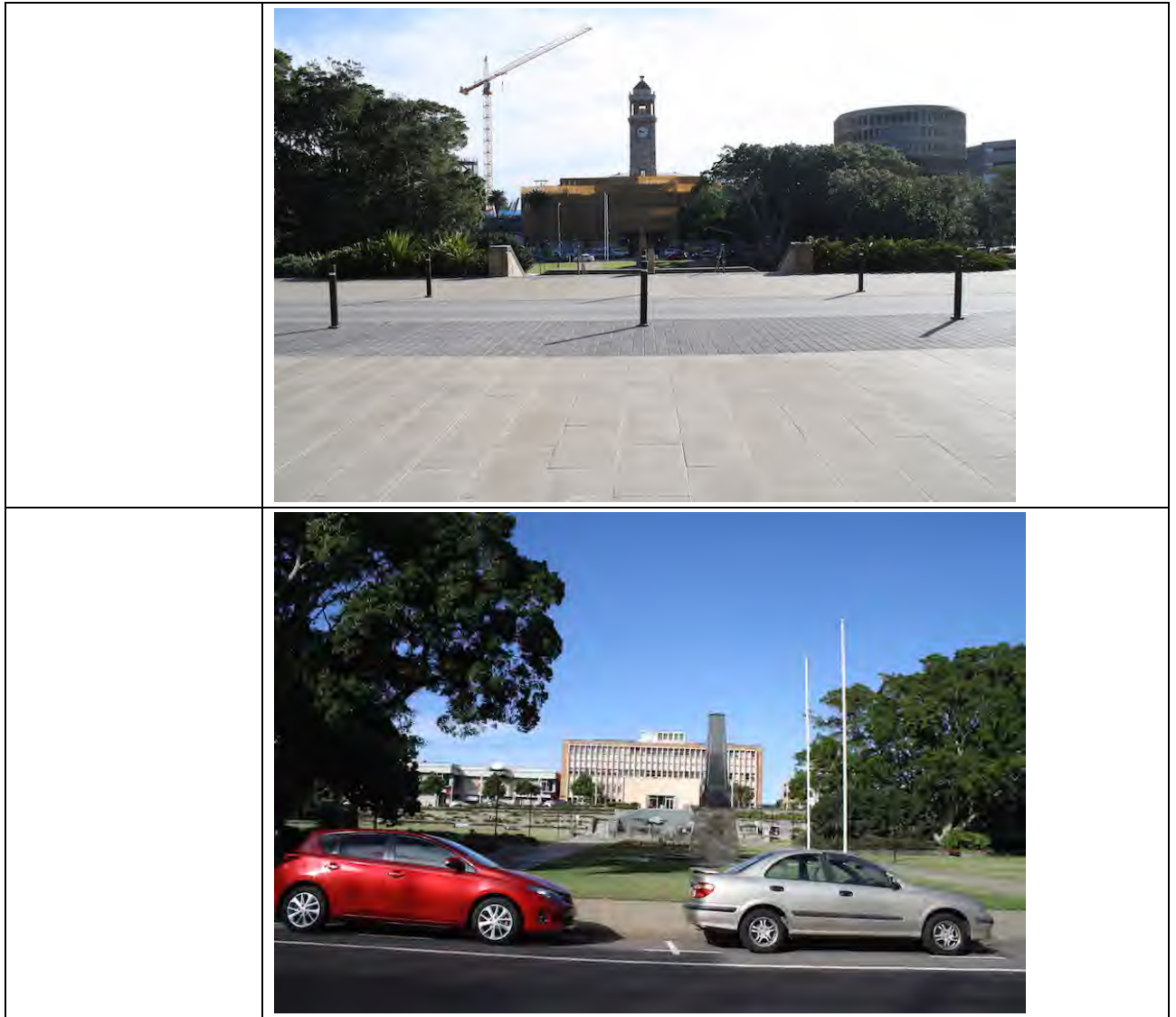
Name	EASTERN SECTION	
Tree 58	<i>Melaleuca leucadendra</i> – Weeping Paperbark	
Description and Condition:	This tree is a later planting in the park and is not evident in the 1979 survey when many of the eastern section plantings were established. The tree has structural defects.	
Curtilage	The scale and presence of the tree creates a strong visual presence in this part of the Eastern Section	
Significance Rating	Little Significance	Significance This tree is assessed as being of little cultural significance historically but is a contributory item to the aesthetic significance of the tree canopy in Civic Park
Management	The ongoing management of trees will be addressed as part of a Tree Succession Planting Strategy in a Public Domain Plan.	
Images		

Name	EASTERN SECTION	
Tree 76	<i>Magnolia grandiflora</i> – Bull-bay Magnolia	
Description and Condition:	This tree is one of the most healthy in Civic Park and is assessed to have longevity exceeding 30 years. There is a commemorative plaque at base. This tree was planted prior to 2007 but is not evident on the 1990 vegetation plan.	
Curtilage	The Magnolia has a strong presence in the eastern section and is visible from Darby Street.	
Significance Rating	Little Significance	Significance The tree contributes to the overall tree canopy of Civic Park but if it fails does not to be replaced with the same species.
Management	The ongoing management of trees will be addressed as part of a Tree Succession Planting Strategy in a Public Domain Plan.	
Images		

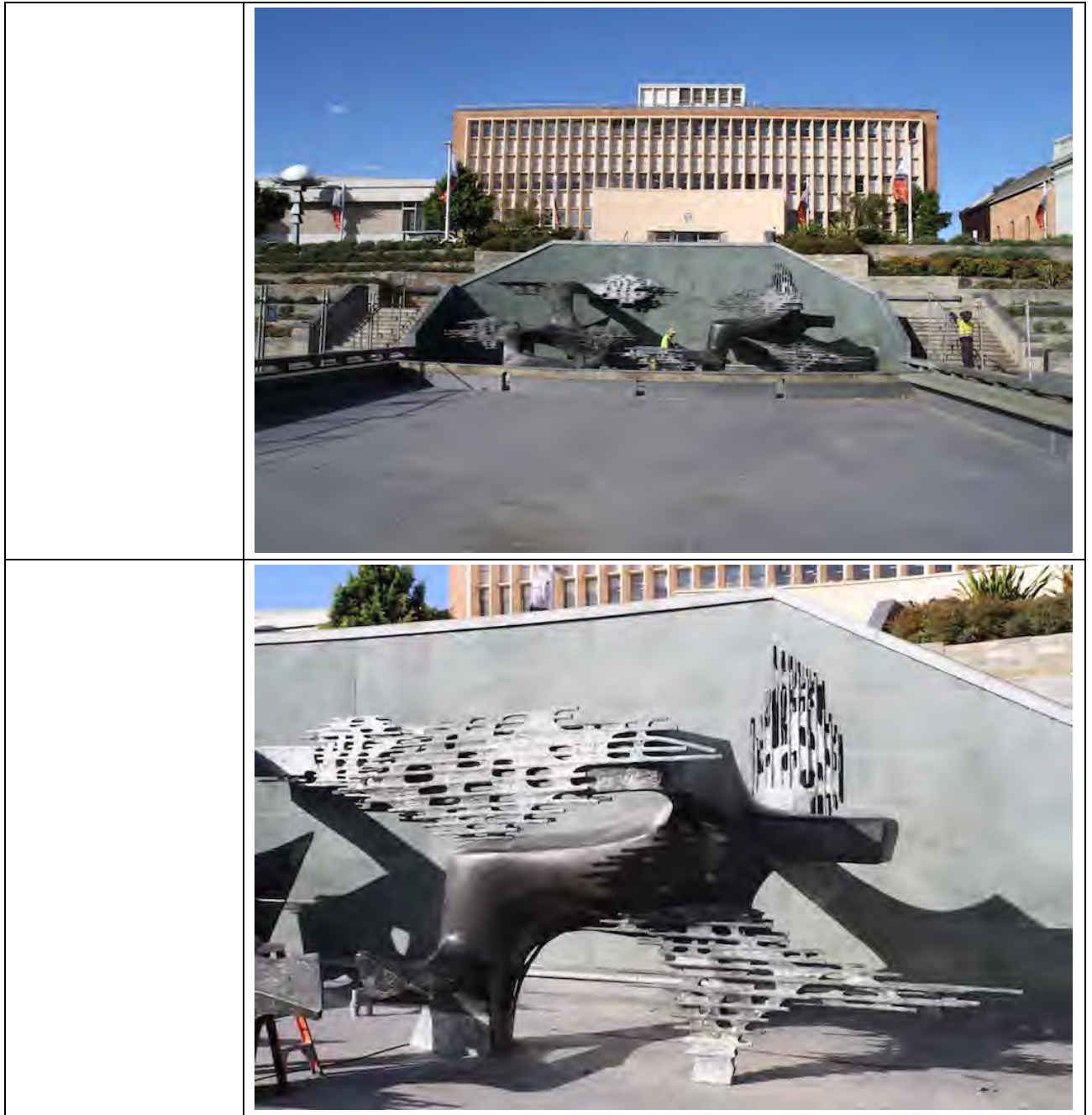
Name	EASTERN SECTION	
Tree 84	<i>Decussocarpus falcatus</i> – Oteniqua	
Description and Condition:	This tree is an unusual specimen in Civic Park . It has a strong presence in Civic Park due to its striking form. It is closely planted on the edge of the Memorial Grove and creates a strong green edge adjacent to the terraces.	
Curtilage	This is limited to the immediate area of the surrounds of the Memorial Grove.	
Significance Rating	Moderate significance	Significance This tree contributes to the tree canopy surrounding the Memorial Grove but if it fails could be replaced with another species.
Management	The ongoing management of trees will be addressed as part of a Tree Succession Planting Strategy in a Public Domain Plan.	
Images		

Name	EASTERN SECTION	
Tree 87, 89, 94	<i>Melaleuca quinquenervia</i> – Broad-leafed Paper-bark	
Description and Condition:	Trees 87, 89 and 94 are large specimens but have some structural issues which need to be monitored into the long term. The trees contribute strongly to Memorial Grove and more generally to the tree canopy and visual context of the whole park.	
Curtilage		
Significance Rating	Moderate Significance	Significance These trees contribute to the overall tree canopy of Civic Park. However, Tree 96 is planted close to the stonework of the water feature and could impact on this item.
Management	The ongoing management of trees will be addressed as part of a Tree Succession Planting Strategy in a Public Domain Plan.	
Images		

Name	Central Axis	
Description and Condition:	<p>The central axis is evident in historic photographs from c1960 (Aerial view of Civic Park, Hunter Photo bank Reg No. 163001933). This photograph shows a path from the Town Hall to Laman Street which is to the west of the central axis formed by the facades of the City Hall and War Memorial Cultural Centre.</p> <p>The central axis is oriented north-south. The southern end commences at the steps at Laman Street, though the visual axis commences at the entry to the War Memorial Cultural Centre. The axis includes the symmetrical steps surrounding the Margel Hinder Fountain (Captain Cook Fountain), the pool and surrounding walls and paving, garden beds and hard paved paths. The southern end is defined by the War Memorial, though the visual axis terminates at the entrance to the City Hall.</p> <p>The central axis creates a vista through Civic Park that is framed by the buildings at either end.</p> <p>The central axis is in good condition and well maintained.</p>	
Curtilage	The curtilage of Civic Park is the lot boundary of Civic Park, including the Signalman's Cottage and the Burwood Coal and Copper Company tunnel and overbridge. Refer to curtilage plan (figure 5a) Section 8.	
Significance Rating	Exceptional Significance	Captain James Cook Memorial Fountain Burwood Coal and Copper Co. overbridge and tunnel
	High Significance	The central axis as a whole. note: The significance of items within have been assessed in separate inventories.
	European Archaeological Potential:	Refer to Appendix E, (3.2 Discussion of Archaeological Potential), Figure 3.28
	• Low Archaeological Potential	Area D – area of fountain and terrace as shown in Figure 3.28 (Appendix E)
	• Moderate to High Archaeological Potential	Area A – Refer to figure 3.28 (Appendix E)
	• Low Archaeological Potential	Area B - Refer to figure 3.28 (Appendix E)
Management	<p>Refer to Conservation Policy for detailed recommendations in Section 10.</p> <p>Treads to fountain stairs require repair or replacement.</p> <p>Removal of signs that interrupt the vista.</p> <p>Concrete paths require repair and continuation of same paving as fountain area should be considered.</p> <p>Consider reinforcement of pedestrian axis at northern end of the axis with the location of a crossing at Kings Street to City hall.</p>	
Plans	<p>Figure 1b Plan showing division of site into sections for the purpose of this study</p> <p>Figure 3b Key Plan of built items in Civic Park</p>	



Name	Captain James Cook Memorial Fountain	
Item C1		
Former Name	Civic Park Fountain	
Description and Condition:	<p>A design competition was held for the fountain in 1961 and the brief required the fountain to be located against the Laman Street embankment. There had been earlier design that sited the fountain in the centre of the park. The winning design was by sculptural artist Margel Hinder who was also commissioned at this time to provide a sculpture for the Reserve Bank building in Sydney. A delay by Newcastle City Council in commissioning the artist meant she began work on the Reserve Bank project first and consequently the Civic Park fountain was not opened until 1966. The fountain was originally called the Civic Park Fountain and was abstract in meaning. In 1970 in order to qualify for a grant to upgrade some of the surroundings of the fountain and to mark the bi-centennial without too much cost the fountain was renamed the James Cook Memorial Fountain.</p> <p>The fountain is a bronze structure. It includes two concrete pools, one in which the fountain is located and another that is a reflective pool. The pool is surrounded by concrete walls with a raised polished granite coping to a part of the wall. The backdrop to the fountain is a retaining wall clad with granite tiles. Two flights of stairs are located to either side of the fountain and form one central flight. These are finished with concrete treads, reinforced concrete walls with timber pattern off form and include bronze balustrades. The surrounding walls to the stairs have a granite coping.</p> <p>The reflective pool is surrounded with a path finished in concrete tiles and granite sets. Other elements include a plaque recording the opening of the fountain in 1966 and another plaque recording the naming of the fountain as Captain James Cook Memorial Fountain in 1988. Also included are a pump house located to the west of the fountain under the terraced wall and stainless steel clad service boxes for the fountain which have been located in the surrounding areas.</p> <p>The fountain and surrounds were repaired and altered in 2005.</p> <p>The fountain is in good condition and well maintained.</p>	
Curtilage	The curtilage is the whole of Civic Park and includes the extended area of King Street to City Hall and Laman Street to the War Memorial Cultural Centre. Refer to curtilage (figure 5a) Section 8.	
Significance Rating	Exceptional Significance	Captain James Cook Memorial Fountain - List on State Heritage Register
	Little Significance	New fabric post Margel Hinder's installation and new fabric dating from the repair of the fountain in 2005.
	High Significance	The central axis as a whole. note: The significance of items within have been assessed in separate inventories.
Management	<p>Refer to Conservation Policy for detailed recommendations in Section 10</p> <p>Conserve Fountain</p> <p>Treads and nosing to fountain stairs require repair or replacement.</p> <p>Sandstone retaining wall requires repair in places.</p> <p>Removal of signs that interrupt the vista</p> <p>Consider altering plaque "to commemorate the bi-centenary of his discovery of the east coast of Australia" Suggested new wording: to commemorate the bi-centenary of his mapping of the east coast of Australia.</p> <p>Consider removing commemoration to James Cook and dedicating to the sculptor, Margel Hinder.</p>	
Images	Location Plan Photographs	







Sign to east of the fountain



Sign to east of the fountain located on the main central axis.



Name	War Memorial	
Item C2		
Description and Condition:	<p>This War Memorial was placed here in 1951 and from this time it became the site for ANZAC Day commemorations. The earlier memorial was a stone base with a flagpole. In 2003, the memorial was altered to include a granite obelisk.</p> <p>The current memorial has a tapered sandstone base above which is a polished granite obelisk.</p> <p>The War Memorial is in good condition and well maintained.</p>	
Curtilage	The curtilage is the whole of Civic Park and includes the extended area of King Street to City Hall and Laman Street to the War Memorial Cultural Centre. Refer to curtilage Plan (figure 5a) Section 8.	
Significance Rating	High Significance	
Management	Refer to Conservation Policy for detailed recommendations in Section 10 Conserve the War Memorial	
Images		
Southern elevation:		
<p>Inscription on tablet on southern face of sandstone plinth:</p> <p>“Honouring the role of the members of the Australian Army Medical Women’s Service 1942-1945 and all the service women who served their Country Commemorating the 60th Anniversary in 2005 of Victory in the Pacific and the end of the Second World War” LEST WE FORGET</p>		

Inscription:

AUSTRALIAN
WOMEN'S SERVICES



Western elevation:



	
<p>Inscription: AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH MILITARY FORCES</p>	

Northern elevation



Inscription:

AUSTRALIAN ROYAL AIR FORCE



Eastern elevation



Inscription:
AUSTRALIAN ROYAL NAVY



Name	Sandstone Terraced Walls	
Item C3 Seats 5,6,7,8, 9,10		
Description and Condition:	<p>The construction of these walls commenced in the early 1960s and was completed in 1969. The sandstone was sourced from kerbs in the city streets of Newcastle.</p> <p>The sandstone terraced walls are parallel to Laman Street and define the southern boundary of Civic Park. The site of the current terraced walls is evident in historic plans and photographs as a natural embankment. (refer to plan:Figure 3.6 Excerpt from 1887 plan of Newcastle R. C. Knaggs and Co. Newcastle, Government Printing Office NLA Map RM 1588 and photographs: Figure 3.17 1945 Part 2 of 3 panorama from Newcastle Town Hall overlooking Civic Park southeast towards Laman St and Figure 3.13 1934 view of Civic Park and Laman Street from across Burwood Line)</p> <p>The walls are in poor to good condition and require replacement of stone in some locations. The walls surrounding the fountain are in poor condition with spalling, erosion and salt damage. These will require replacement if deterioration continues.</p>	
Curtilage	The curtilage is the whole of Civic Park and includes the extended area of King Street to City Hall and Laman Street to the War Memorial Cultural Centre. Refer to Curtilage Plan (figure 5a) Section 8	
Significance Rating	High Significance	Sandstone walls
	Little Significance	Stairs to Laman Street (south-east)
	Little Significance	Stairs to Laman Street (south-west)
	Little Significance	Concrete paving
	Little Significance	Vegetation
	Little Significance	Seats 5,6,7,8,9,10
Management	<p>Refer to Conservation Policy for detailed recommendations in Section 10</p> <p>The walls are in poor to good condition and require replacement of stone in some locations. The walls surrounding the fountain are in poor condition with spalling, erosion and salt damage. These will require replacement if deterioration continues.</p> <p>The sandstone walls are assessed as being of high significance and hence the fabric of the walls should be reused in any new plan form or enlargement of the terrace walls.</p>	
Images	Photographs	



Seat 5



Seat 8



Concrete stairs from Laman Street at eastern end of sandstone Terrace



Balustrade and stairs in area of fountain



Balustrade in area of fountain





Stairs from Laman Street
at western end of
sandstone terrace



Electricity box to the west of the fountain



Access to service area to west of the fountain.





Name	Burwood Coal Company Railway, Tunnel and Bridge	
Item C4		
Description and Condition:	<p>The Burwood Coal and Copper Company built a line in 1854 which crossed under Laman Street via a tunnel. An Act of Parliament was required to cross the AAC land to carry coal from the the Merewether Estate to Newcastle Harbour. This Act included a designated corridor that included the tunnel in Laman Street. Then later, in order to form the dog-leg road of Dawson, Laman and Auckland Streets an overbridge was required , retaining walls and earth mounding.¹</p> <p>The Burwood railway tunnel is evident in an 1889 plan (Figure 3.8 1896 plan of Newcastle, Civic Park) which shows the retaining walls. The railway line ceased to operate in 1954 and was closed in 1955 and purchased by Newcastle Council in 1958. It is important as the first railway in the colony to transport public passengers²</p> <p>The tunnel and embankment retaining walls are extant, though the tunnel is currently closed. The railway and signal posts were removed after 1955. These signal posts are evident in an 1889 plan. Until the 1970s the Burwood railway was clearly marked with fig trees and crossed diagonally from the tunnel located today in the south-west of the park and crossed the park to the north-west connecting to Burwood Lane. The diagonal line of the railway is currently defined by the orientation of the storage shed and the steps to Laman Street.</p>	
Curtilage	The curtilage is the whole of Civic Park and includes the extended area of King Street to City Hall and Laman Street to the War Memorial Cultural Centre and tunnel and overbridge. Refer to curtilage plan (figure 5a) Section 8.	
Significance Rating	Exceptional Significance	
Management	<p>Refer to Conservation Policy for detailed recommendations in Section 10</p> <p>Interpret the railway line and signal posts</p> <p>Consider opening the tunnel for public access, alternatively interpret the tunnel and its use by the Burwood Coal and Copper Company</p> <p>Interpret the historic role of the Burwood Coal and Copper Company railway and the Act of Parliament required to cross the AAC land.</p>	
Images		

¹ Hunter, Newcastle Civic and Cultural Precinct, p10


² Hunter, Newcastle Civic and Cultural Precinct, p10




Name	Stairs to Laman Street	
Item C5		
Description and Condition:	<p>The stairs are likely to have been constructed after the closure of the railway in 1954 and as part of the terraced wall that was constructed in the 1960s to provide access to the park from Laman Street.</p> <p>The stairs are constructed in concrete with sandstone walls retaining the soil and bordering garden beds. The diagonal line of the former Burwood Coal Company railway is currently defined by the orientation of the storage shed and the steps to Laman Street.</p>	
Curtilage	The curtilage is the whole of Civic Park and includes the extended area of King Street to City Hall and Laman Street to the War Memorial Cultural Centre and tunnel and overbridge. Refer to curtilage plan (figure 5a) Section 8.	
Significance Rating	Little Significance	Stairs
Management	<p>Refer to Conservation Policy for detailed recommendations in Section 10</p> <p>Stairs: Remove stairs if required in order to interpret the railway and tunnel Interpret the railway line in this area Consider opening the tunnel for public access, alternatively interpret the tunnel and its use by the Burwood Coal Company Interpret the historic role of the Burwood Coal Company and the legal changes to the AAC Charter.</p> <p>Shed: Remove shed and tanks in order to interpret the railway and tunnel. Interpret the railway line in this area. Alternative location for the shed to be found within the park that does not limit the historical interpretation of the park or does not impede the significant views as identified in Figure 7a.</p>	
Images		
		

Name	Storage Sheds, Water Tanks	
Item C6		
Description and Condition:	The shed was built after the closure of the railway in 1954 and similarly to the stairs is likely to date from the building of the sandstone terraced walls. The shed is constructed with sandstone walls and a concrete slab roof. There is a colorbond shed located to the north and a PVC water tank.	
Curtilage	The curtilage is the whole of Civic Park and includes the extended area of King Street to City Hall and Laman Street to the War Memorial Cultural Centre and tunnel and overbridge. Refer to curtilage plan (figure 5a) Section 8.	
Significance Rating	Intrusive	Storage Sheds Water Tanks
Management	<p>Refer to Conservation Policy for detailed recommendations in Section 10</p> <p>Stairs: Remove stairs if required in order to interpret the railway and tunnel Interpret the railway line in this area Consider opening the tunnel for public access, alternatively interpret the tunnel and its use by the Burwood Coal Company Interpret the historic role of the Burwood Coal Company and the legal changes to the AAC Charter.</p> <p>Shed: Remove shed and tanks to allow interpretation of the railway and tunnel. Interpret the railway line in this area. Alternative location for the shed to be found within the park that does not limit the historical interpretation of the park or does not impede the significant views as identified in Figure 7a.</p>	
Images		
		



Name	Paving to Central Axis	
Item C7		
Description and Condition:	<p>Concrete paving</p> <p>The central axis is evident in historic photographs from c1960 (Aerial view pf Civic Park, Hunter Photo bank Reg No. 163001933). This photograph shows a path from the Town Hall to Laman Street which is to the west of the central axis formed by the facades of the City Hall and War Memorial Cultural Centre.</p> <p>The central axis is evident in historic photographs from c1960 (Aerial view pf Civic Park, Hunter Photo bank Reg No. 163001933). This photograph shows a path from the Town Hall to Laman Street which is to the west of the central axis formed by the facades of the City Hall and War Memorial Cultural Centre. The existing paving was laid post 1960 when the central axis was fully formed.</p> <p>The paving is in good to fair condition with some uneven surfaces, patching of holes and movement. The concretet type and colour is variable.</p>	
Curtilage	The curtilage is the whole of Civic Park and includes the extended area of King Street to City Hall and Laman Street to the War Memorial Cultural Centre and tunnel and overbridge. Refer to curtilage plan (figure 5a) Section 8.	
Significance Rating	Little Significance	
Management	<p>Refer to Conservation Policy for detailed recommendations in Section 10</p> <p>Design paving type in same style as the 1960s urban design of the park or is a consistent contemporary style similar to the fountain surrounds.</p> <p>Paths should emphasise the central axis and all other paths should be secondary.</p>	
Images		
		

Name	Terrace	
	General Planting	
Description and Condition:	Trachelospermum jasminoides, Nandina domestica, Hebe, Phormium species	
Curtilage	The curtilage is the whole of Civic Park and includes the extended area of King Street to City Hall and Laman Street to the War Memorial Cultural Centre and tunnel and overbridge. Refer to curtilage plan (figure 5a) Section 8.	
Significance Rating	Little Significance	
Management	The ongoing management will be addressed as part of a Tree Succession Planting Strategy in a Public Domain Plan.	
Images		

Appendix B - Chronology of Newcastle Council Land Acquisition

source: Hunter, C. *Newcastle Civic and Cultural Precinct Historical Development* (Newcastle City Council, 2002)

14 Civic Park - acquiring the land

The table below is a summary of the stepwise process of council's acquiring the land that makes up Civic Park. The individual parcels are indicated in the accompanying plan.

1921	Lot 6	Acquired by council for a railway siding associated with electricity works in April 1921. In 1957, consolidated with Civic Park.
1929	Lots 46 & 47	Resumed in November 1929 for the purpose of the erection of administrative and other buildings for the Electricity Department of the Newcastle City Council Transferred to the General Fund (January 1939)
1938	Lots 4 & 7	Acquired by council for 'civic purposes' from R Breckenridge and others October 1938
1946	Lot 9	Acquired by council for 'Civic Purposes' from James Sandy P/L August 1946. The area required for widening Darby Street was dedicated a public road in September 1966 and the residue were dedicated as 'Public Reserve'.
1947	Lot 3	Acquired by council for consolidation and for 'Civic Purposes', from Union Trustee Company of Australia Ltd in June 1947
1958	Part Burwood Rail Line	Acquired by council from AA Company in June 1958
1964	Lots 2, 5 & 8	Acquired by council from G H Varley P/L February 1964 for open space and road widening
1964	Lot 1	Acquired by council from Newcastle Building and Investment Company Ltd in August 1964 for open space and road widening.
1979	Civic Park	Civic Park dedicated as Public Reserve.
1987	Civic Park	Zoned 6(a) Open Space (Newcastle LEP 1987)



Figure 25: The accompanying plan with allotments numbered, and this summary of acquisition, is from the Report of the Town Clerk No 24 of 7 November 1978, moved to Newcastle Region Public Library in April 1986

Appendix C - Arborist's Report

Source: Marsden, D., Tree Survey and Report carried out at Civic Park and Wheeler Place, Newcastle, 23 May 2016

Appendix D - Summary of the Workshop Consultation Process

Summary prepared by carste STUDIO based on Civic Park, Workshop Outcomes, Corporate Services, Newcastle City Council, June 2016.

The participants, methods and findings are contained in detail in the report:

Civic Park, Workshop Outcomes, Corporate Services, Newcastle City Council, June 2016.

The Stakeholder concerns and issues have been developed following these three workshops. The groups that attended the workshops included:

- *Community workshop open to any community member who wished to attend (n=28 attended)*
- *External stakeholder workshop with participants invited from targeted stakeholder groups with a particular interest in Civic Park (n=28 attended). Particular groups invited were St Andrews Cathedral Community Preschool, Newcastle Police, Ability Links, Newcastle Now, RSL and Olive Tree markets*
- *Internal stakeholder workshop with Council staff whose work relates to Civic Park in some way (n=18 attended).⁹⁷*

The workshops included a number of methods which are described in the Workshop Outcomes report. The following is only an extract and in order to fully understand the findings of the community workshops then the reader should refer to Workshop Outcomes report.

The main ideas that had consensus from the workshops (using the mapping method) are extracted from the Workshop Outcomes report and included:

- *The two items with the highest level of support were “No reduction of park area through road widening of King Street (14 dots) and wide steps/ramp access leading down where terraces are (11 dots) and New toilets near corner of King and Darby Streets” (11 dots)*
- *There were frequent mentions of the addition of a café/kiosk and children's play area, however, there was not consensus as to where they should be located*
- *There were various ideas for the area abutting the corner of King and Darby Streets including; Peace Park, a new toilet block, a children's play area, a big sculpture, a speakers' corner/meeting place, a garden grove, a recreational area and a café. This suggests that there is an impression that this area is underutilised.⁹⁸*

The findings (from the “sticky note” method) included:

- *While there was some variation between the workshop groups, there was general consensus regarding current positive aspects of Civic Park, and what could be improved for the future. Themes that were mentioned the most in terms of frequency and consistency between workshop groups were:*
 - *Flowers, garden beds positive*
 - *Large open space in the centre of the city*
 - *New toilet facilities required*
 - *Appreciation of existing trees and desire for more trees, maintain natural environment.*

The findings from the (ideas rating sheet method) included:

⁹⁷ Civic Park, Workshop Outcomes, Corporate Services, Newcastle City Council, June 2016

⁹⁸ Civic Park, Workshop Outcomes, Corporate Services, Newcastle City Council, June 2016

- *At least half of participants agreed or strongly agreed with 14 out of 23 of the statements presented to them. Statements that three-quarters or more participants agreed with included:*
 - *a tree renewal program should be undertaken*
 - *the toilet block should be demolished*
 - *St Andrews and the former Signalman's Cottage should be more visually accessible from the park*
 - *a new toilet block should be in a different location in the park*
- *The statements that gained the lowest levels of agreement (one-quarter or fewer workshop participants agreed with the statement) were:*
 - *there are too many memorials in the park*
 - *the existing trees are well placed*
 - *Civic Park is a safe place at night*
 - *the paths in Civic Park meet the needs of users*
 - *there is sufficient lighting throughout the park*

The findings from the *ratings of importance* include:

The principal observations from these results include:

- *All of the statements presented to participants rated a high level of importance. Two statements were either important or very important to participants to retain; there were:*
 - *open grassed areas*
 - *the pathways*
- *Retaining the raised garden beds was the least important to participants (However almost two-thirds of participants did rate it as important to retain).*

The findings from the *support ratings* include:

The principal observations from these results include:

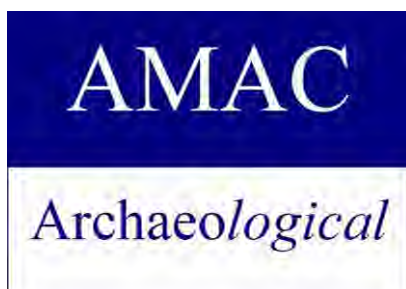
- *Potential options for inclusion in Civic Park that the most participants favoured or strongly favoured were:*
 - *more music events/concerts held in the park*
 - *open air films shown in the park*
 - *more festivals held in the park*
- *The statements that the fewest participants favoured were:*
 - *more memorials held in the park*
 - *more markets held in the park*
 - *health equipment such as boot camp style devices in the park.*

Appendix E - Archaeology

Prepared by Archaeological Management and Consulting Group

CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT PLAN : ARCHAEOLOGY

**Civic Park,
Newcastle, NSW**



Jaki Baloh and Ben Streat

Archaeological Management & Consulting Group

for

Carste Studio

June 2016

Disclaimer

The veracity of this report is not guaranteed unless it is a complete and original copy.

This report may be inaccurate, incomplete, not original, or modified, if it appears in monochrome form and the signature below is a copy.

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Cover Image

Post-1939 aerial photograph of Civic Park and surrounds.
Recovered Memories: Newcastle and the Hunter (2011, 15)

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The executive summary for archaeological results and recommendations has been included in Section 1 and Section 5 of the Conservation Management Plan.

GLOSSARY

Term	Definition
AMAC Group	Archaeological Management and Consulting Group
Archaeological feature	Archaeological material which is not considered a relic in terms of the NSW Heritage Act 1977. For example- postholes, artefact scatters, cesspits or rubbish pits
DCP	Development Control Plan
DP	Deposited Plan
Former relic	A deposit, artefact, object or material evidence whereby the integrity of the relic is viewed to have been destroyed or disturbed to the point where it is no longer considered to hold any significance as a relic in terms of the NSW Heritage Act 1977.
Heritage Division	Formerly known as the Heritage Branch
LEP	Local Environment Plan
LGA	Local Government Area
LTO	Land Titles Office
NPW Act	National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974
OEH	NSW Office of Environment and Heritage (formerly known as the DECCW)
Relic	Defined by the NSW Heritage Act (see Section 1.5.3) 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”
S57	Refers to definition of Section 57 in the NSW Heritage Act 1977
S60	Refers to definition of Section 60 in the NSW Heritage Act 1977
S139	Refers to definition of Section 139 in the NSW Heritage Act 1977
S140	Refers to definition of Section 140 in the NSW Heritage Act 1977
SHI	State Heritage Inventory
SHR	State Heritage Register
Work	Archaeological material related to road and rail infrastructure which is not considered a relic in terms of the NSW Heritage Act 1977, however may retain an archaeological significance independent of the statutory definitions. The interpretation of a ‘work’ has been defined in consultation with the Heritage Division



Figure 1.1 Site location, outlined in red.
Six Maps (accessed 16/05/2016).



Figure 1.2 Aerial photograph showing the study site outlined in red.
Six Maps (accessed 16/05/2016).



Figure 1.3 The study area is composed of four precincts, outlined above. Six Maps (accessed 16/05/2016) and Civic Park Public Domain Plan (February 2016):

1. Western Precinct
2. Central Spine
3. Eastern Precinct
4. Former Proposed Tunnel



Figure 1.4 Plan showing allotment boundaries and Deposited Plan numbers. Six Maps (accessed 16/05/2016).

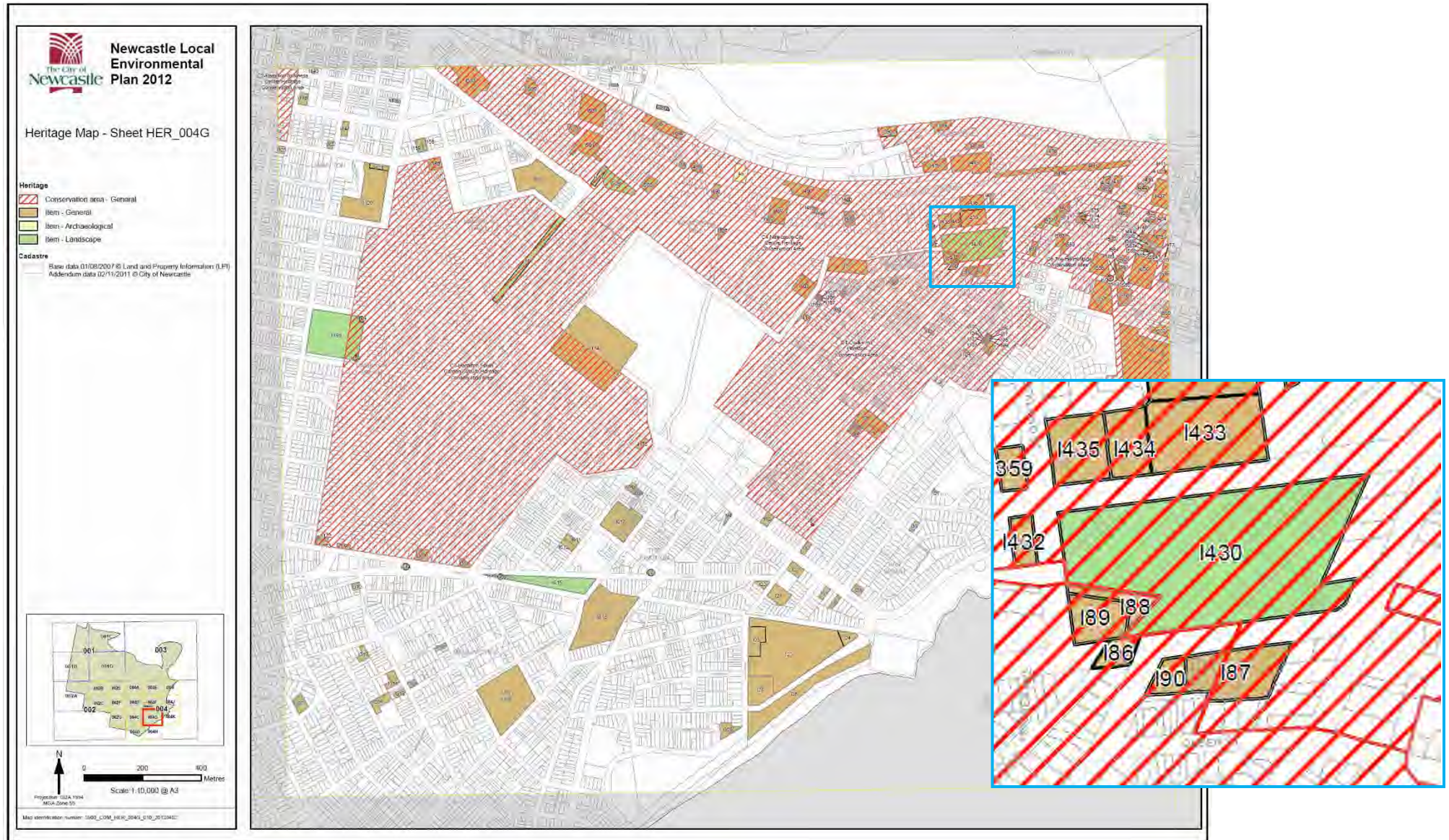


Figure 1.5 Heritage Map showing study site as Item I430 within C4 'Newcastle City Centre Heritage Conservation Area.' Newcastle LEP (2012) Sheet HER_004G.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 BACKGROUND

Carste Studio has commissioned the Archaeological Management and Consulting Group to prepare a consideration of the historical and Aboriginal archaeology of the Civic Park site in Newcastle for inclusion in a Conservation Management Plan.

1.2 STUDY AREA

The study site is that piece of land described as Lot 300 in Deposited Plan 604071, Lot 11 in DP 1098216, Lots 2 and 5 in DP 95186, Lot 8 in DP 150031 and Lot 91 in DP 521033. The lots combine to form Civic Park; the park is bounded by King Street, Darby Street, Auckland Street and Laman Street in Newcastle, County of Northumberland.

1.3 SCOPE

This report contains historical archaeological research, analysis of archaeological potential and potential significance for inclusion in a broader Conservation Management Plan for Civic Park, Newcastle.

This report also considers the potential Aboriginal archaeology of the study site. Aboriginal sites and objects are protected by the National Parks and Wildlife Act (see Section 1.5.2).

The heritage value of the structures currently standing on the study site is not assessed as part of this report.

1.4 AUTHOR IDENTIFICATION

This report is based on research and resources collated and shared by Carste Studio as well as original research conducted by AMAC Group.

The collections used were the University of Newcastle Cultural Collection, Trove online collection and Hunter Photobank.

1.5 STATUTORY CONTROLS AND HERITAGE STUDIES

1.5.1 Aboriginal Archaeology

1.5.1.1 National Parks and Wildlife Act (1974)

The NSW National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974 (as amended) defines Aboriginal objects and provides protection to any and all material remains which may be evidence of the Aboriginal occupation of lands continued within the state of New South Wales. The relevant sections of the Act are sections 84, 86, 87 and 90. An Aboriginal object, formerly known as a relic is defined as:

any deposit, object or material evidence (not being a handicraft made for sale) relating to the Aboriginal habitation of the area that comprises New South Wales, being

habitation before or concurrent with (or both) the occupation of that area by persons of non-Aboriginal extraction, and includes Aboriginal remains” (NSW Government, 1974).

It is an offence to harm or desecrate an Aboriginal object or places under Part 6, Section 86 of the NPW Act:

Part 6, Division 1, Section 86: Harming or desecrating Aboriginal objects and Aboriginal places

- (1) *A person must not harm or desecrate an object that the person knows is an Aboriginal object.*

Maximum penalty:

- (a) *in the case of an individual—2,500 penalty units or imprisonment for 1 year, or both, or (in circumstances of aggravation) 5,000 penalty units or imprisonment for 2 years, or both, or*
 (b) *in the case of a corporation—10,000 penalty units.*
- (2) *A person must not harm an Aboriginal object.*

Maximum penalty:

- (a) *in the case of an individual—500 penalty units or (in circumstances of aggravation) 1,000 penalty units, or*
 (b) *in the case of a corporation—2,000 penalty units.*
- (3) *For the purposes of this section, **circumstances of aggravation** are:*
- (a) *that the offence was committed in the course of carrying out a commercial activity, or*
 (b) *that the offence was the second or subsequent occasion on which the offender was convicted of an offence under this section.*

This subsection does not apply unless the circumstances of aggravation were identified in the court attendance notice or summons for the offence.

- (4) *A person must not harm or desecrate an Aboriginal place.*

Maximum penalty:

- (a) *in the case of an individual—5,000 penalty units or imprisonment for 2 years, or both, or*
 (b) *in the case of a corporation—10,000 penalty units.*
- (5) *The offences under subsections (2) and (4) are offences of strict liability and the defence of honest and reasonable mistake of fact applies.*
- (6) *Subsections (1) and (2) do not apply with respect to an Aboriginal object that is dealt with in accordance with section 85A.*
- (7) *A single prosecution for an offence under subsection (1) or (2) may relate to a single Aboriginal object or a group of Aboriginal objects.*
- (8) *If, in proceedings for an offence under subsection (1), the court is satisfied that, at the time the accused harmed the Aboriginal object concerned, the accused did not know that the object was an Aboriginal object, the court may find an offence proved under subsection (2).*

1.5.1.2 Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1979

The Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 (EP&A Act) states that environmental impacts of proposed developments must be considered in land use planning procedures. Four parts of this act relate to Aboriginal cultural heritage.

- Part 3, Divisions 3, 4 and 4A refer to Regional Environmental Plans (REP) and Local Environmental Plans (LEP) which are environmental planning instruments which call for the assessment of Aboriginal heritage among other requirements.
- Part 4 determines which developments require consent and which do not require consent. Section 79C calls for the evaluation of:

The likely impacts of that development, including environmental impacts on both the natural and built environments and the social and economic impacts in the locality (NSW Government 1979).
- Part 5 of this Act requires that impacts on a locality which may have an impact on the aesthetic, anthropological, architectural, cultural, historic, scientific, recreational or scenic value are considered as part of the development application process (NSW Government, 1979).

1.5.1.3 The NSW Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1983

The NSW *Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1983* (ALR Act), administered by the NSW Department of Aboriginal Affairs, established the NSW Aboriginal Land Council (NSWALC) and Local Aboriginal Land Councils (LALCs). The ALR Act requires these bodies to:

- Take action to protect the culture and heritage of Aboriginal persons in the council's area, subject to any other law;
- Promote awareness in the community of the culture and heritage of Aboriginal persons in the council's area.

These requirements recognise and acknowledge the statutory role and responsibilities of New South Wales Aboriginal Land Council and Local Aboriginal Land Councils.

The ALR Act also establishes the Office of the Registrar whose functions include but are not limited to, maintaining the Register of Aboriginal Land Claims and the Register of Aboriginal Owners. Under the ALR Act the Office of the Registrar is to give priority to the entry in the Register of the names of Aboriginal persons who have a cultural association with:

- Lands listed in Schedule 14 to the NPW Act;
- Lands to which section 36A of the ALR Act applies (NSW Government, 1974 & DECCW 2010).

1.5.1.4 The Native Title Act 1993

The *Native Title Act 1993* (NTA) provides the legislative framework to:

- Recognise and protect native title;
- Establish ways in which future dealings affecting native title may proceed, and to set standards for those dealings, including providing certain procedural rights for registered native title claimants and native title holders in relation to acts which affect native title;

- Establish a mechanism for determining claims to native title;
- Provide for, or permit, the validation of past acts invalidated because of the existence of native title.

The National Native Title Tribunal has a number of functions under the NTA including maintaining the Register of Native Title Claims, the National Native Title Register and the Register of Indigenous Land Use Agreements and mediating native title claims (NSW Government, 1974 & DECCW 2010).

1.5.1.5 Register of Declared Aboriginal Places 1999

The NPW Act protects areas of land that have recognised values of significance to Aboriginal people. These areas may or may not contain Aboriginal objects (i.e. any physical evidence of Aboriginal occupation or use). Places can be nominated by any person to be considered for Aboriginal Place gazettal. Once nominated, a recommendation can be made to EPA/OEH for consideration by the Minister. The Minister declares an area to be an 'Aboriginal place' if the Minister believes that the place is, or was of special significance to Aboriginal culture. An area can have spiritual, natural resource usage, historical, social, educational or other type of significance.

Under Section 86 of the NPW Act it is an offence to harm or desecrate a declared Aboriginal place. Harm includes destroying, defacing or damaging an Aboriginal place. The potential impacts of the development on an Aboriginal place must be assessed if the development will be in the vicinity of an Aboriginal place (DECCW 2010).

1.5.1.6 Due Diligence Code of Practice for the Protection of Aboriginal Objects in NSW

In October 2010 DECCW (now the Office of Environment and Heritage) introduced the "Due Diligence Code of Practice for the Protection of Aboriginal Objects in NSW".¹ This code of conduct was released in response to changes in the NPW Act which now states "A person must not harm or desecrate an object that the person knows is an Aboriginal object" or that "A person must not harm or desecrate an Aboriginal place" (NPW Act, Amendment 2010). Individuals or organisations who are contemplating undertaking activities which could harm Aboriginal objects should consult this code or engage the services of an appropriately qualified archaeological consultant to carry out a Due Diligence study on any proposed development.

This code provides a process whereby a reasonable determination can be made as to whether or not Aboriginal objects will be harmed by an activity, whether further investigation is warranted, and whether the activity requires an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP) application. If through this, or any other process which meets the standards of this code, such as the commission of an Environmental Impact Assessment, one has already taken reasonable steps to identify Aboriginal objects in an area subject to a proposed activity. Subsequently if it is already known that

¹ Office of Environment and Heritage,
<http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/resources/cultureheritage/ddcop/10798ddcop.pdf>

Aboriginal objects will be harmed, or are likely to be harmed by an activity, then an application should be made for an AHIP.

Any future assessment should conform to the parameters set out in the Due Diligence Code of Practice for the Protection of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales, Part 6 National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974, (DECCW 2010). The Due Diligence Code of Practice for the Protection of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales states that if:

- A desktop assessment and visual inspection confirm that there are Aboriginal objects or that they are likely, then further archaeological investigation and impact assessment is necessary.

1.5.1.7 Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales

Any further work resulting from recommendations of future reports should be carried out conforming to the Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales, Part 6 National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974, (DECCW 2010) or relevant Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP) conditions should an AHIP be in place.

1.5.1.8 Guidelines

The following documents advocate best practice in New South Wales:

- Aboriginal Archaeological Survey, Guidelines for Archaeological Survey Reporting (NSW NPWS 1998);
- Due Diligence Code of Practice for the Protection of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales, Part 6 National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974, (DECCW 2010);
- Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales, Part 6 National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974, (DECCW 2010);
- Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Standards and Guidelines Kit (NPWS 1998);
- Australia ICOMOS 'Burra' Charter for the conservation of culturally significant places (Australia ICOMOS 1999);
- Part 6; National Parks and Wildlife Act Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultation Requirements for Proponents (DECCW 2010);
- Protecting Local Heritage Places: A Guide for Communities (Australian Heritage Commission 1999).

1.5.1.9 The Newcastle DCP states that:

Where a development will disturb the ground surface, provide documentation to satisfy the consent authority that the due diligence process has been followed. The documentation should include (but is not limited to) the following:

- A statement indicating the results of the AHIMS database search and any other sources of information considered.
- A statement indicating whether there are landscape features that indicate the presence of Aboriginal objects.
- A statement indicating whether the proposed development is likely to harm Aboriginal objects.

- A statement indicating whether an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP) is required.
- Where required, prepare an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment to assess the impact of the proposed development on Aboriginal cultural heritage consistent with the Office of Environment and Heritage *Guide to investigating, assessing and reporting on Aboriginal cultural heritage in NSW*.
- Where required, prepare an Aboriginal cultural heritage assessment report consistent with the Office of Environment and Heritage *Guide to investigating, assessing and reporting on Aboriginal cultural heritage in NSW* that includes strategies to avoid or minimise harm to Aboriginal objects and places of cultural significance.
- Where the investigation and assessment requires the preparation of an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment report, provide documentation to satisfy the consent authority that the relevant Aboriginal community and stakeholders have been involved in the decision making process.

1.5.2 Historical Archaeology

1.5.2.1 NSW Heritage Act 1977 (as amended)

The NSW Heritage Act 1977 affords automatic statutory protection to relics that form archaeological deposits or part thereof. The Act defines relics as:

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

Sections 139 to 145 of the NSW Heritage Act prevent the excavation or disturbance of land for the purpose of discovering, exposing or moving a relic, except by a qualified archaeologist to whom an excavation permit has been issued by the Heritage Council of NSW.

1.5.2.2 State Heritage Register and Inventory

The NSW State Heritage Register or Inventory is a list which contains places, items and areas of heritage value to New South Wales. These places are protected under the New South Wales Heritage Act 1977.

The site is not listed on the NSW State Heritage Register, but it is listed on the State Heritage Inventory (see Appendix 7.1).

The inventory states that Civic Park is significant for its role as an urban park in the social and cultural development of Newcastle. It was part of an overall design for the 'Civic centre' of the city which includes City Hall, Civic Theatre, Christie Place, Civic Station and the later War Memorial Cultural Centre and Regional Gallery. The park is also significant in a historical sense as it is located at the former crossing point of two of Newcastle's most economically important coal rail lines: The Australian Agricultural Company's line from Hamilton and the Mitchell's Burwood Coal and Copper Co's rail from Merewether.

1.5.2.3 National Heritage List

The National Heritage List is a list which contains places, items and areas of outstanding heritage value to Australia. This can include places and areas overseas as well as items of Aboriginal significance and origin. These places are protected under the Australian Government's EPBC Act.

The study site is not listed on the National Heritage List.

1.5.2.4 Commonwealth Heritage List

The Commonwealth Heritage List can include natural, Indigenous and historic places of value to the nation. Items on this list are under Commonwealth ownership or control and as such are identified, protected and managed by the federal government.

The study site is not listed on the Commonwealth Heritage List.

1.5.2.5 Newcastle Local Environment Plan (2012)

The Newcastle Local Environment Plan was prepared in 2012. Heritage Conservation is discussed in Part 5, Clause 5.10. The following section highlights the archaeological considerations of a site in relation to developments:

7) Archaeological sites

The consent authority must, before granting consent under this clause to the carrying out of development on an archaeological site (other than land listed on the State Heritage Register or to which an interim heritage order under the *Heritage Act 1977* applies):

- (a) notify the Heritage Council of its intention to grant consent, and
- (b) take into consideration any response received from the Heritage Council within 28 days after the notice is sent.

Schedule 5 of this plan lists Items of Environmental Heritage with heritage items listed in Part 1, Heritage Conservation areas listed in Part 2 and Archaeological Sites listed in Part 3.

The study site is listed as landscape heritage item I430 'Civic Park' at the address 201 King Street, Newcastle in Part 8, Schedule 5 of the Newcastle Local Environmental Plan 2012. The item is described as having local significance. The site is also included in C4 "Newcastle City Centre Heritage Conservation Area", which is listed in Part 2 of Schedule 5 (Figure 1.5).²

1.5.2.6 Newcastle Development Control Plan 2012

The management of archaeological sites is dealt with in Section 5.06 of the Newcastle Development Control Plan 2012. 5.06.01 B and C discusses the management and conservation of archaeological resources:

² Newcastle City Council 2012.

B. Managing archaeological resources

Objectives

1. Ensure archaeological sites are managed in accordance with the requirements of the NSW Heritage Act 1977.
2. Manage archaeological sites in accordance with the assessed levels of heritage significance.

Controls

1. Adhere to the recommendations of any archaeological assessment or preliminary archaeological assessment.
2. Manage archaeological sites in accordance with the requirements of the NSW Heritage Act 1977.

C. Conserving archaeological resources

Objectives

1. Conserve archaeological sites in accordance with the assessed levels of heritage significance.

Controls

1. Adhere to the recommendations of any archaeological assessment or preliminary archaeological assessment.³

The site is located within “Newcastle City Centre Heritage Conservation Area”, outlined in the Newcastle Development Control Plan 2012. Guidelines for development within this Area are provided in Section 5.07 of the Plan. The Statement of Heritage Significance for City Centre Heritage Conservation Area is described thus –

The Newcastle City Centre Heritage Conservation Area is significant on many levels. The mix of commercial, retail and civic buildings is a powerful reminder of the city's past, its economic and social history. Historic buildings provide the backdrop to a city of dramatic topography on the edge of sea and the mouth of a harbour. The pre-1840s buildings in the city are of state significance (Rose Cottage, c1830, Newcomen Club, 1830, parts of James Fletcher Hospital) and share associations with the city's convict origins. Newcastle has a rich archaeological record of national significance, with the potential to yield information about the early convict settlement and early industrial activities. The city area is known to have been a place of contact between colonists and the indigenous population. This evidence is available Newcastle Development Control Plan 2012 5.07 Heritage Conservation Areas 5 0.00 in historical accounts and in the archaeological record surviving beneath the modern city. The high numbers of commercial and civic buildings of the 19thc and 20th centuries gives the city a rich historic character which is notable and allows an understanding of the importance of the city as a place of commerce, governance and city building. The historical foundation of the city was the discovery and exploitation of coal with good shipping access via a safe and navigable harbour. The town's layout by Surveyor General Henry Dangar in 1828 is still visible in the city's streets, and is an element of historical value, particularly in the vicinity of Thorn, Keightley, Hunter and Market Streets.⁴

³ Newcastle City Council 2012b, Section 5.06 p.4

⁴ Newcastle City Council 2012b, Section 5.07 p.4-5

1.5.2.7 Newcastle Archaeological Management Plan 1997

The Newcastle Archaeological Management Plan was prepared by Suters Architects in 1997 for the Newcastle City Council. The study site is not listed as an archaeological site, however the Burwood Coal Company Railway, which runs through the site, is listed as Item 1021.⁵

1.5.2.8 Newcastle Archaeological Management Strategy 2015

The Newcastle Archaeological Management Strategy was produced by the Newcastle City Council following the 'Newcastle Archaeological Management Plan Review', by Edward Higginbotham & Associates 2013. This document assesses the significance of the potential archaeological resource thematically for the city of Newcastle and outlines recommendations for management.

1.6 PREVIOUS STUDIES

1.6.1 Previous Aboriginal Archaeological Investigations Near the Study Area

As part of the research process of this report the library of archaeological assessments, test excavation and open area salvage excavation reports which is located at the offices of DECCW in Hurstville was consulted. Those viewed by the author as being of the most relevance to this report are outlined below.

Bairstow and Turner carried out an archaeological excavation at Bond & Scott Streets in Newcastle East in 1987 but the finds were neither retained nor analysed. During a subsequent test excavation in 1989, a number of additional flaked stone artefacts were located close to Bond Street and were located in what was thought to be buried intact original soil profiles.

Lavelle & Mider undertook archaeological monitoring of excavation works in 1993 at Bond Street in Newcastle East and located 6 stone tools. These included a chert point and a sandstone grinding stone, located in what was thought to be buried intact original soil profiles.

Higginbotham and Associates carried out test excavation work at the same site in 1998 which revealed a considerable quantity of 'stone rubble' that was initially considered to constitute railway ballast associated with the later historic period of site use. Australian Museum Business Services (AMBS) later identified this material as being largely Aboriginal in origin as flaked stone tools were present amongst un-worked cobbles and boulders. It remains a point of conjecture as to whether this material was located in buried intact original soil profiles or was representative of re-deposited material from the historical European period.

Godden McKay Logan (GML) conducted archaeological excavations at 738 Hunter Street, Newcastle 1997 which located 3 flaked stone artefacts. The 3 flaked stone artefacts were all relatively small and were reduced from silcrete chert. These artefacts were located in buried intact original soil profiles.

⁵ Suters Architects Snell & Newcastle (N. S.W.). Council 1997

AHMS conducted an assessment in conjunction with a European archaeological survey on a portion of land located on the northern side of Hunter Street, between the existing 'Palais Royale' Cottage Creek and the Great North Railway, Newcastle in 2001. No Aboriginal archaeological resources were located during the course of this survey. However, due to the possibility of intact topsoil deposits and the undertaking of a European test excavation programme, members of the LALC requested to be present in case Aboriginal artefacts were recovered during the test excavation process. The subsequent program of test excavation, as was the case with GML excavation, yielded buried intact original soil profiles, which contained significant Aboriginal archaeological deposits comprising shell midden materials and large numbers of flaked stone artefacts. The assemblage consisted of approximately 5,734 pieces of stone. While the assemblage has not yet been fully catalogued it is expected that upwards of 4,000 flaked stone artefacts will be evident. The assemblage also contained a total of some 2,939 whole or fragmentary shells and approximately 326 pieces of animal bone. The stone artefacts consisted of tuff, silcrete, quartz, rhyolite and flint.

In 2004 AHMS conducted an archaeological excavation at 710 Hunter Street, Newcastle which yielded 513 stone artefacts, predominately tuff pieces which exhibited attributes of abrasion. Only small areas of intact original soil profiles could be found as mainly disturbed and re-deposited fills were encountered.

Dallas conducted a test excavation programme in conjunction with a European archaeological excavation at the 'Boardwalk Site' on Honeysuckle Drive, east of the 'Square about', within the bounds of the Civic Railway workshops, Newcastle in 2004. This excavation yielded the partial and disturbed remains of a coastal campsite with a thin scatter of shells, approximately 113 stone artefacts as well animal bone from a buried former landscape. The stone artefacts consisted of tuff, silcrete, quartz, rhyolite and flint. No further archaeological work was recommended based on the highly disturbed nature of the area due to two centuries of European activity.

Umwelt conducted a subsurface historical test excavation programme at 9 Watt Street, Newcastle which yielded disturbed soil profiles which contained five Aboriginal flaked stone artefacts. No evidence was located to suggest they had been manufactured on site. It was concluded that the artefacts were imported onto the site as a result of the importation of levelling fill.⁶

AHMS conducted a subsurface excavation programme at 700 Hunter Street, Newcastle which yielded buried intact and disturbed soil profiles which contained significant Aboriginal archaeological deposits comprising shell midden materials and large numbers of flaked stone artefacts. The assemblage consisted of more than 4000 stone artefacts and included human skeletal remains as a result of the study areas association with a former cemetery. Some of the skeletal remains were identified as Aboriginal, however, they were not in a pre-European burial context that were associated with the cemetery. The stone artefacts consisted of tuff, silcrete, quartz, rhyolite and flint.⁷

⁶ Umwelt (2005).

⁷ AHMS (2005).

Insite Heritage undertook historical archaeological excavations at 200 – 212 Hunter Street, Newcastle. Aboriginal artefacts were identified during these excavations however they were all identified as coming from disturbed contexts and no evidence was located to suggest they had been manufactured on site. These artefacts it was concluded were imported onto the site as a result of the importation of levelling fill.⁸

AMBS Consulting conducted an Aboriginal Heritage Study within the Newcastle Local Government Area for the Newcastle City Council in 2005. The heritage study indicates the site to be of moderate potential.

AMAC Group conducted a subsurface test excavation programme at 409 Hunter Street, Newcastle which yielded both buried intact and disturbed soil profiles which contained significant Aboriginal archaeological deposits comprising large numbers of flaked stone artefacts. The assemblage consisted of more than 500 stone artefacts. The stone artefacts consisted of tuff, silcrete and quartz.⁹

AMAC Group conducted a subsurface historical test excavation programme at 11 – 15 Watt Street, Newcastle which yielded disturbed soil profiles that contained one Aboriginal flaked stone artefact. This artefact was identified as coming from disturbed contexts and no evidence was located to suggest they had been manufactured on site. The artefact, it was concluded, was imported onto the site as a result of the importation of levelling fill.¹⁰

AMAC Group conducted a subsurface salvage excavation as part of an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management Plan at 409 Hunter Street, Newcastle which yielded both buried intact and disturbed soil profiles which contained significant Aboriginal archaeological deposits comprising large numbers of flaked stone artefacts. The assemblage consisted of more than 6500 stone artefacts. The stone artefacts consisted of tuff, silcrete and quartz.¹¹

AMAC Group has been monitoring the trenching of service lines for Ausgrid as part of the 409 Hunter Street, Newcastle development. These works have the potential to yield Aboriginal objects and as such an AHIP is in place. These works are currently in progress.

The practical ramifications of the results of the aforementioned archaeological assessments and excavations is that there is a low/moderate potential for Aboriginal archaeological objects to be present within the study area, particularly if buried intact original soil profiles are present. However, given the disturbance identified within the study area it is more likely that disturbed Aboriginal archaeological objects are present; these would still require an AHIP to legally allow for the impact of said objects. This potential is not reflected in the visibility of surface archaeological material and is more accurately reflected in the results of past assessments and excavations within the vicinity of the study area, and from within similar landscape units within the Hunter Valley.

⁸ Insite (2005).

⁹ AMAC Group (in press).

¹⁰ AMAC Group (2014).

¹¹ AMAC Group (in press).

1.6.2 Previous Historical Archaeology Studies and Reports

Several studies, encompassing heritage, history and soils, have taken place within and nearby Civic Park, Newcastle. These are summarised below.

1.6.2.1 Godden Mackay (January 1996) Newcastle Civic Site Heritage Impact Statement, for Newcastle City Council

This Heritage Impact Statement considers four buildings adjacent to Civic Park: New Frederick Ash building on Burwood Street, the Clarendon Hotel, Morpeth House and the Bennet building all on Hunter Street. The archaeology of the study site is not considered.

1.6.2.2 Cynthia Hunter (January 2003) Newcastle Civic and Cultural Precinct History for Newcastle City Council

This document is a historical account of the development of the 'Civic Administrative and Cultural Precinct'. It describes the study site and its surrounds from pre-European settlement to the 1990s development of the Honeysuckle area. The focus is often on the construction and function of significant buildings across the precinct and changes made by historically important persons. Though not an assessment of the archaeology of the study site, an account of the historical development and potential archaeological sites within Civic Park can be distilled from the larger story.

1.6.2.3 Sydney Environmental and Soil Laboratory (March 2005) Soil Investigations for Civic Park Newcastle, prepared for Newcastle City Council

Civic Park is located within old estuarine sand terraces that have been covered with approximately 500mm of anthropic fill and then capped with 100-300mm of sandy loam soil. The old sand surfaces are now at around 800mm below the present surface. Above the sand is a layer of mixed garbic fill with ash, coke and clay brick inclusions, as well as sintered materials related to coal, brickmaking demolition and excavation waste. Within the eastern side of the park some lenses of sand exist within that fill. Also on the eastern side the fill is capped with a heavily compacted road base of pebbles in a sandy loam matrix. Recently, the whole of Civic Park was capped with 100-300mm of sandy loam landscaping soil.

1.6.2.4 Government Architects Office Heritage Group (August 2008) Newcastle City Hall Conservation Management Plan, prepared for Newcastle City Council

The Conservation Management Plan was prepared to guide the future care and use of Newcastle City Hall and its immediate curtilage. The present study site, Civic Park, is included in that curtilage. No assessment of the archaeology of the Civic Park is contained in the report, but it does contain a general historical account of the park and the precinct. Potential archaeology and policy is considered only for the City Hall site.

1.6.2.5 Heritas (March 2010) Laman Street Fig Trees, Cooks Hill, NSW 2300, Heritage Assessment & Recommendations for Newcastle City Council

An assessment of the heritage significance and recommendations for management for the stand of fig trees located in Laman Street, Cooks Hill, between Darby Street and Dawson Street. The fig trees were considered to be of historical, social and aesthetic cultural heritage value on a local level. The archaeology of Civic Park is not considered, though the assessment contains a lengthy and detailed account of the history of Civic Park and its surrounding precinct.

1.7 ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Thank you to Stephen Booker and Elizabeth Evans of Carste Studio for their research material, correspondence and collaboration.

2.0 ARCHAEOLOGY: NATIONAL PARKS AND WILDLIFE ACT 1974

2.1 OEH AHIMS SEARCH RESULTS

The Archaeological Heritage and Information Management System Database (AHIMS) is located at the OEH Offices at Hurstville in New South Wales. This database comprises information about all the previously recorded Aboriginal archaeological sites registered with OEH. Further to the site card information that is present about each recorded site, the assessments and excavation reports that are associated with the location of many of these sites are present in a library of reports.

The location of these sites shown (Table 1) must be viewed as purely indicative, as errors in the recording of the locations of sites often occur due to the disparate nature of the recording process, the varying level of experience of those locating the sites and the errors which can occur when transferring data. If possible sites that appear to be located near a study area should be relocated. An AHIMS search was carried out on the 1st June 2016 with a client service ID of 228078.

Table 2.2.1 AHIMS Search Results

Site ID	Site name	Context	Site status	Site features
38-4-0525	Catholic Education Site	Open site	Valid	Artefact : -
38-4-0454	Yirannaii;	Open site	Valid	Aboriginal Ceremony and Dreaming: -
38-4-0559	The Boardwalk- Newcastle 1	Open site	Valid	Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) : 0
38-4-0544	700 Hunter Street	Open site	Valid	Artefact : -
38-4-0772	710 Hunter Street Newcastle PAD	Open site	Valid	Shell : -, Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) : -
38-4-0796	200 Hunter Street PAD	Open site	Valid	Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) : -
38-4-0831	Palais Royale	Open site	Partially Destroyed	Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) : -, Artefact : 5534, Shell : -
38-4-0832	Empire Hotel PAD	Open site	Valid	Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) : -
38-4-0952	Bellevue Hotel PAD	Open site	Valid	Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) : -
38-4-0851	710 Hunter St Newcastle, PAD	Open site	Valid	Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) : -
38-4-1084	Newcastle CBD PAD	Open site	Valid	Potential Archaeological Deposit (PAD) : -
38-4-1222	Cottage Creek OSI	Open site	Valid	Artefact : 1
38-4-1223	Wickham UFCCALE OS1	Open site	Valid	Artefact : 1
38-4-1642	409 Hunter Street Newcastle Fill duplicate of 409 Hunter Street Newcastle Insitu	Open site	Valid	Artefact : -, Shell : -
38-4-1803	Isolated Find 3-Rail	Open site	Valid	Artefact : -
38-4-1805	Isolated Find 2-Rail	Open site	Valid	Artefact : -

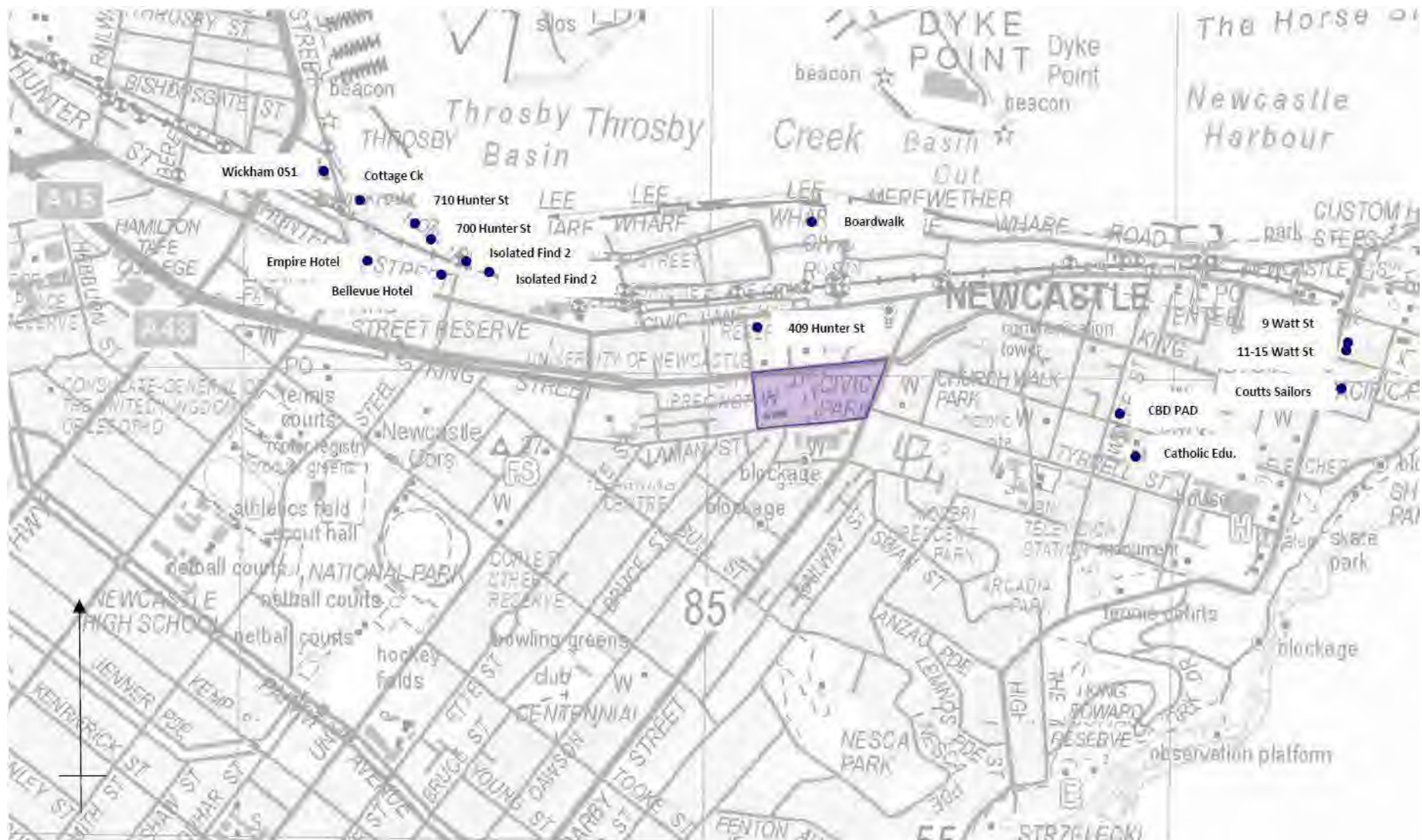


Figure 2.1 Location of registered Aboriginal sites within 1000m of the study area, indicated in the purple circle. AHIMS (2016), Memory Map (2015).

2.2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL

It is important to note that the following describes only the archaeological potential of the study area. It is acknowledged that if the study area has little or no archaeological potential, the study area may still have cultural significance to the Aboriginal community which can only be ascertained by consultation with said community.

The Hunter River currently lies approximately 360m to the north of the study area. This distance may have been as little as 80m prior to European settlement. The Hunter River and an unnamed creek shown to be less than 200m to the north (AMAC, 2013) are considered higher order streams. Archaeological sites will be larger, more complex and have a relatively higher density the closer they are to permanent fresh water (Kohen 1986), along with regularly exploitable food resources. Sites with ephemeral water sources or those which are located in the vicinity of the headwaters of upper tributaries (first order streams) have a sparse distribution and density (McDonald 1992). The study area may contain artefacts that are representative of concentrated and repeated Aboriginal occupation. The study area has potential to contain Aboriginal objects of conservation value within undisturbed sections. There also remains the potential for disturbed Aboriginal archaeological remains to be present in the study area which may be of interest to the Aboriginal community.

Areas of moderate to high archaeological potential are possible within undisturbed parts of the study area and the likelihood of any development to impact undisturbed archaeological objects or deposits will need to be assessed at the appropriate level by a suitably qualified archaeologist.

2.3 RECOMMENDATIONS

A brief background analysis of the environmental and archaeological context revealed that the study area may contain Aboriginal deposits and/ or objects of conservation value in areas which remain undisturbed as well as within disturbed contexts. In view of surrounding landscape features present, which do indicate that sub-surface Aboriginal objects with potential conservation value may be present, the following has been recommended;

- Any future development that has the potential to disturb the ground surface that is not classified as an exempt or low impact activity (DECCW 2010), or involves impact deemed to be trivial or negligible, will need as a minimum a due diligence archaeological assessment in accordance with the Due Diligence Code of Practice for the Protection of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales, Part 6 National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974, (DECCW 2010).
- Any recommendations arising from this level of assessment should conform to the relevant OEH guidelines and standards.
- Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessments including consultation (in accordance with Due Diligence Code of Practice for the Protection of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales, Part 6 National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974, DECCW 2010), archaeological test excavation (in accordance with Code of Practice for Archaeological Investigation of Aboriginal Objects in New South Wales, Part 6 National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974, DECCW 2010), salvage excavation and AHIPs are all possible outcomes from assessment and may be required for development within Civic Park Newcastle.

3.0 ARCHAEOLOGY: HERITAGE ACT 1977

3.1 HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE STUDY SITE

The study site remained unoccupied and undeveloped land until the c.1840s when it was cleared for use by the Australian Agricultural Company (AAC). The AAC laid the first rail track and it crossed the study site northwest to southeast and operated until c.1920. A second major line was built by the Burwood Coal Company in c.1850, it intersected with the AAC line as it crossed the study site southwest - northeast and it operated until 1955. Both tracks are depicted together in an 1857 plan of Newcastle (Figure 3.2). Yet the plan also appears to show a branch in the AAC line prior to crossing Auckland St which would send a section of track northeast along the Lower Church St (now King St) frontage of the study site. This section of track, if it definitely existed, does not arise again in the remaining images and plans related to the site.

No structures are known to exist in the vicinity of the rail intersection until the construction of the Signalman's Cottage, though this structure is excluded from the present study site. The cottage and its relationship to the railway, as well as the lack of surrounding development is demonstrated by the 1874 lithograph of Newcastle, though the perspective of the image does not accurately show the alignment of the rail lines through the study site (Figure 3.3).

Detail of the study site has been excluded from the 1886 Mahlstedt and Gee fire insurance survey of Newcastle though it borders the streets shown in Sheets 5, 6 and 16 (Figure 3.5). However, in a plan from the following year (Figure 3.6), the study site is included though at such a large scale that any minor developments were unlikely to be depicted within the scope of the plan's function. The 1887 plan does however show the topography of the site, namely the Laman Street sand dune and its downwards northern slope across the study site (Figure 3.6).

The 1889 lithograph also largely excludes the study site, however it does show the north east corner where Darby St and Lower Church St intersect (Figure 3.7). The image is interesting for its depiction of the nature of the surrounding area, however is not useful for demonstrating development on the study site. In fact, the train appears to be on the Burwood St section of the track, however that track does not appear to extend through the study site to the southwest as it should. Either the track was not drawn, or there is a line that crosses the northern face of the study site along Lower Church St. It is unlikely this line is related to the northern branch identified in Figure 3.2, as it does not appear in the several intervening plans and images. All that can be taken from the image is that the study site was still likely unoccupied and undeveloped excepting the tracks.

The 1896 plan (Figure 3.8) is the first to show the study site in great detail and very little development has occurred. Again, there is no sign of the northern branch of the AAC line - perhaps it never existed or perhaps it was decommissioned. The northwest corner of the study site is shown to contain two sheds and three smaller outbuildings. Existing research suggests that this northwest area formed Andrew Cook's timber yards (c.1900)¹² and the small building on the corner of King (previously Lower Church) and Auckland Streets was owned by the windmill

¹² Government Architects Office Heritage Group (August 2008) Newcastle City Hall Conservation Management Plan, prepared for Newcastle City Council, 20

manufacturer P.W. Russell & Co.¹³ However, based on the location description and the size of the building in the northwest corner, it is possible that the building owned by P.W. Russell & Co could also be the larger structure on the opposite southwest intersection of Lower Church and Auckland Streets and not on the study site. Furthermore, there is potentially conflicting research which suggests the St Andrews trustees leased the land 'at the rear of the church (presumably from the A. A. Company) for stabling and horse paddocks', and that 'in 1926, a garage was erected here'.¹⁴ The Church use of the land would depend on whether the 'rear' of the Church meant rear to the north or rear to the east. Further research could clarify the use of this section of Civic Park.

East of the northwest allotment on the 1896 plan was another small square structure on 'Lower Church St', now King St. It was similar to another in the west and the buildings may have been related in function or may merely have been similar in dimension. Two signal posts are marked in the north and east where the train lines would emerge onto Lower Church and Darby Streets respectively. A small horse trough is noted south east along Laman Street, unlikely on the study site. Similarly, a wall and dotted line over the Laman St bridge marked 'SRW' likely represents a 'stone retaining wall.' The whole eastern half of the study site is still unoccupied, yet at the beginning of the century the area east of the rail line was associated with Breckenridge Timberyard.¹⁵

In comparison to the others, the 1910 plan (Figure 3.9) is an outlier as it shows three structures opposite the town hall that are not visible in earlier or later plans. The sheds from the 1896 plan in the northwest corner are still evident and the industrial development of the north east corner has begun – however they appear different in shape to the warehouses that can be seen in the early 20th century aerials (Figure 3.14-Figure 3.24). Of the structures in the northwest corner, it is possible that the two square structures on King Street are the same as those depicted in the post-1939 image (Figure 3.14) and the space between them has been filled in by a third structure that connects the rooflines. The southern structure along the Burwood line appears unrelated to the structures depicted in the post-1939 aerial. Thus it may be that there was an early c.1900s industrial building phase on the study site which was later adapted or demolished and rebuilt closer to the c.1940s.

Two 1916 plans show the site in outline only (Figure 3.10-Figure 3.11), however Figure 3.10 shows a shortening of the AAC line, as this was around the time the line was decommissioned and was partway removed, or perhaps it was not within the purpose of the plan to depict the remainder. The 1934 view of Town Hall shows the central northern area of the study site following its resumption by Newcastle City Council (Figure 3.12). The trees are still saplings and the ground has been levelled and turfed. Considering the 1910 and 1916 plans, as well as the 1934 photograph, it is likely the c.1896 sheds were demolished after Council resumed and re-developed the land between 1929 and 1934. The second 1934 view of the park faces Laman Street and it is clear that the AAC line has been fully removed (Figure 3.13).

¹³ Heritas (March 2010) Laman Street Fig Trees, Cooks Hill, NSW 2300, Heritage Assessment & Recommendations for Newcastle City Council, 9.

Phong-anant, D. and Stewart, I. "Perseverance Will Command Success', Engineering Manufacture", in J. Armstrong (ed) *Shaping the Hunter*, Newcastle, 1983, p.98, NMH, 21 May 1960.

¹⁴ Cynthia Hunter (January 2003) Newcastle Civic and Cultural Precinct History for Newcastle City Council, 22.

¹⁵ Government Architects Office Heritage Group (August 2008) 20.

The first aerial view of the overall study site shows the piecemeal development of the park block post-1939 (Figure 3.14). The three main sectors are occupied by St Andrews Church, the industrial warehouses and the Council owned park. The land of St Andrews Church and the Signalman's Cottage is not included in the present study site. The industrial allotments along Darby and King Streets included timberyards, G. H. Varley's engineering workshops and Newcastle Fibrous Plaster Works.¹⁶ The land between the warehouses and the Burwood line was undeveloped except for a cricket pitch in the centre and is criss-crossed by informal tracks. The aerial photograph in Figure 3.14 was likely taken at a similar time to the 1945 panorama shots as they show the same phase of development at the study site (Figure 3.16-Figure 3.20). The key change after the post-1939 and 1945 shots is apparent in Figure 3.21 where a long rectangular, single-storey structure occupies the King Street face of the park. This structure was reportedly used as a temporary conservatorium for music tuition 'set up in 1951 in a timber barrack-type building in King Street at the eastern end of Civic Park'.¹⁷

The documentary record and the pictographic record are somewhat at odds during the 1940s. Between 1941 and 1942, when only the northwest corner of the current park was owned by the council, newspaper articles indicate that emergency air raid shelters were excavated within the study site. However, the trenches, nor any scar or sign of them, can be seen in the photographs and aerials taken only a few years later (Figure 3.14-Figure 3.22). Assuming they were indeed on the study site, the trenches were designed to protect the 'floating population' of Newcastle in the event of a sudden air raid. In 1941 they are described as zig-zag trenches approximately 3ft deep located 'in the park opposite the City Hall'.¹⁸ By January 1942 it is stated that two trench shelters were located in 'Civic Park, King Street',¹⁹ and by April 1942 'Civic Park' is described as having '200ft' of trenching, though whether this was contained by one structure or two is uncertain.²⁰

From 1950 there appears to be greater informal use of the central area of the park and ongoing formal use of the eastern and western faces. The c.1945 structure from Figure 3.21 is still evident, and behind it, adjacent to the cricket pitch, is a long rectangular feature – though it is not certain whether it is a building as it is markedly shorter than the structures surrounding it (Figure 3.22). By 1954, the feature opposite the pitch is gone, though another long rectangular structure has been added to the rear of the c.1945 King St building (Figure 3.23). This structure is far clearer in the later aerial view of Newcastle (Figure 3.24). It is also clear from this image that the Darby Street warehouses have retained their configuration, whereas the land at the rear has been surfaced and developed into a car park. The c.1945 King Street structure has gained a small extension on its southeast face. The spine of the park has also undergone development where a large paved pathway and steps has been installed between Laman St and King St. By this stage Newcastle Council had acquired and removed the Burwood Line.

Once Newcastle City Council acquired and removed the Burwood Line and the industrial properties along Darby Street in around c.1964, the development of the modern Civic Park began. In the 1960s, the paved pathway and steps leading to the War Memorial Cultural Centre in Laman Street were constructed (Figure 3.24), as

¹⁶ Heritas (March 2010) 9.

¹⁷ Hunter, C. (2003) 40.

¹⁸ Newcastle Morning Herald (1876-1954) Tuesday 16th December 1941, p3.

¹⁹ The Newcastle Sun (1918-1954) Tuesday 27th January 1942, p3.

²⁰ Newcastle Morning Herald (1876-1954) Thursday 23rd April 1942, p3.

well as a memorial grove in the park's southeast corner and the Margel Hinder fountain.²¹

3.1.1 Historical Development Summary

Buildings numbers correspond to Figure 3.28.

Pre-Railway Phase (c.1800-c.1840)

No known development.

Australian Agricultural Company Phase (c.1840-c.1854)

c.1840 Australian Agricultural Company Railway (24, Area D).

Australian Agricultural Company and Burwood Line Phase (c.1854-1920)

c.1850 Burwood Coal Company Railway (23, Area D).

c.1857 - possible construction and decommission of east-west rail line connecting AAC line and Burwood line in the north along Civic Park King Street frontage (Area A).

Two c.1896 sheds and three outbuildings at the corner of Auckland and King Street, at the rear of St Andrew's Church, north of the AAC line (1-5, Area A).

One c.1896 square outbuilding on King Street, north of the intersection of the AAC line and Burwood line (6, Area A).

c.1896 Stone retaining wall at the Laman St Bridge for the Burwood Line (22, Area D).

c.1896 Signal post on King Street intersection with Burwood Line (Area D).

c.1896 Signal post near Darby Street intersection with AAC Line (Area D).

Three possible c.1910 buildings on King Street, north of intersection between rail lines (6-8 Area A).

Two c.1910 irregular square structures, likely warehouses, on King Street north of the AAC Line where it intersects with Darby Street. (9-10, Area C).

One c.1910 irregular 'L' shape structure, likely warehouses, possibly adjoining with one of the square structures on King Street. (9, Area C).

c.1920 decommission of the AAC Line (Area D).

c.1934 informal walking tracks across land (All areas).

²¹ Heritas (March 2010) 9

c.1939 warehouses along Darby Street and King Street adapted or re-developed from c.1910 structures (9-10, 15-21, Area C).

Burwood Line and Council Phase (c.1920-1958)

One c.1930s cricket pitch, east of the Burwood Line and west of the c.1910 warehouses, oriented north-south (Area B).

Informal walking tracks across land (All areas).

c.1930s garden beds, park bench foundations and informal tracks in the northwest corner between King Street and Auckland Street (Area A).

c.1939 adaption and/or demolition of c.1910 warehouses and construction of new warehouses along Darby Street and King Street frontage. (Area C).

c.1941-1942 one or two air raid trenches up to 200ft in length and 3ft deep in the northwest corner between King Street and Auckland Street (Location unknown, likely Area A).

c.1945 rectangular, single-storey structure along King Street (11, Area B).

c.1950 rectangular feature east of cricket pitch (Area B).

c.1950 possible road or track from Laman Street to King Street, east of Burwood Line (Area B and D).

Post-Railway Civic Park Phase (1958-2016)

c.1960 central pathway and steps between Laman Street and King Street (Area A, B, D).

c.1960 north-south structure (12, Area B).

c.1960 car park surface (Area B).

3.2 DISCUSSION OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL

Development within Civic Park since c.1840 has been inconsistent and conditioned by the presence of the two intersecting rail way tracks that have shaped much of the land's history. As such its archaeological potential will be discussed in four separate areas that have been divided as they relate to the historical use of the land. All building numbers and area boundaries (A, B, C and D) relate to Figure 3.28, which constitutes an overlay of several sources of historical information regarding development of the study site. The overlay and this discussion should be read as a summary of the research available so far and as a broad estimate of areas of archaeological potential.

In general, the natural sand terraces of Civic Park are expected to approximately occur beneath 500mm - 800mm of fill.²² This may place the potential archaeology at depths beneath the surface which are within this range.

3.2.1 Area A

Bounded by Auckland Street, King Street, the AAC line and the Burwood line was the area of land first owned by Newcastle Council and the first iteration of Civic Park. Historical development in this area was limited, though two plans do indicate several structures (1-8) and documentary research indicates the possibility of WW2 air raid trenches (not numbered, specific location unknown).

Structures 1-5 were most likely commercial or industrial buildings considering that structures 2 and 4 were labelled as sheds on the 1896 plan. It may be that all were of wooden construction, though some of the larger ones might have been of brick. If wooden, their archaeological potential is likely limited to post holes. However, if built using dry-press or late sandstock bricks, their footprint could be more substantial where piers or footings may be in situ. It should be noted that Buildings 1, 2 and 3 were replicated on the 1910 plan but appeared out of proportion to their real size, which was more accurately depicted by the 1896 plan.

In terms of function, current research suggests several possibilities for the area overall: that the building on the corner belonged to windmill manufacturers P.W. Russell & Co; that the northwest area formed Andrew Cook's timber yards; or, that the land to the rear of St Andrew's was leased by the church from AAC for stabling and horse paddocks. The windmill manufacturer and timber yards may have similar archaeological potential. The area could yield commercial and industrial material related to large scale wood-working, manufacture, storage and rubbish discard, though it does depend on whether the study site was used for administration and storage or rather industrial production. If either business processed timber on site, this may have necessitated a saw pit which is a deep subsurface feature that would have been backfilled on decommission. On site manufacture would also increase the likelihood of industrial rubbish discard, which could be characterised by wood off-cuts, saw dust and hand tools amongst general food, drink or clerical waste. The archaeological potential for the five c.1896 structures at the corner of Auckland and King Street is likely low to moderate, though if industrial activities took place on the study site the potential for those remains is likely moderate to high. Dependent on the location of the land leased by the Church, this part of the study site may also retain evidence of stables and fencing for horse paddocks. It is not certain where the stables were, or if the stables once used the rectangle structure at the rear of the

²² Sydney Environmental and Soil Laboratory (March 2005) Civic Park Newcastle: Soil Conditions, prepared for the Council of the City of Newcastle, 3

corner allotment on Auckland St. The archaeological potential for the possible stables and paddocks is likely considered to be low.

The functions of structures 6-8 are unknown, though it is reasonable to suggest that they were not depicted at the correct scale on the 1910 plan and their footprint is likely smaller than the blue shading in Figure 3.28 suggests. Further research about the nature and function of these buildings is required, however it is likely that their archaeological potential is low.

There are two further possible areas of archaeological potential for Area A that are not mapped by Figure 3.28. First the possible c.1857 northern branch of the AAC line, as well as the 1941 emergency air raid trench. On reflection, the branch of the track may not have existed on the ground; it may have only been presented on the plan as an intended feature of the track. However, it may also have been a short lived extension. It would have a similar material signature to the other major rail lines on the study site and could be detectable in the soil profile by linear cuts or levelling fills as opposed to remnant metal tracks. The emergency air raid shelter is the largest structure likely to have existed in this area. Whilst its specific location is unknown, it was reported to be 200ft in length and 3ft in depth. Most likely it was filled in and levelled during decommission, thus its archaeological potential is considered high.

As this area of Civic Park has undergone minimal modern re-development – filling and levelling the site rather than bulk excavation, the archaeological potential of historical developments in this area should be largely unaffected. This area is considered to have moderate to high archaeological potential, especially in the case of the air raid trenches if they existed in this location.

Area A is considered to have moderate to high archaeological potential.

3.2.2 Area B:

Although this area may be associated with the use of Breckenridge Timberyard, in the state of present research the only known developments in this area occurred in the mid-20th century - the earliest being Building 11, constructed in c.1945 as a barracks-style temporary music tuition venue. Considering its temporary nature, the building is most likely lightweight on brick piers which would suggest limited archaeological potential. Two further c.1960 structures (13, 14) appear to be extensions to Building 11, these are also likely to have an ephemeral impact on the soil profile. The c.1960s Building 12 is a single storey building of unknown construction type. Its archaeological potential may also be limited to brick piers, however if it was a more substantial and permanent structure, strip footings may have been used and these are much more likely to be detectable. Area B is also characterised by a large surfaced carpark and it is most likely that this surface was removed during conversion into Civic Park to allow for plantings. Evidence of the c.1930s cricket pitch may have been lost if this is the case, as it would have disturbed the upper layers of the soil profile and the pitch is more of an ephemeral feature of the park.

Area B is considered to have low archaeological potential.

3.3.3 Area C:

This area contains the most historical development and the most archaeological potential. It was heavily developed between c.1910-1960 and these structures are demonstrated in several photographs though not on maps or plans. Their representation in Figure 3.28 is therefore an estimate of the building footprints taken from photographs and the 1970s lot boundaries. Structures 9-10 are taken from the 1910 plan but their location and size are likely unreliable – it is suggested that these form the basis of Structure 15 taken from the mid-20th century photographs of the site.

The archaeological potential for Buildings 15, 16 and 17 is high due to the substantial nature of those buildings and because little bulk excavation has occurred that would have totally removed or disturbed those remains on a large scale. The site was built up and levelled, rather than excavated, for the development of Civic Park.²³ Therefore, it is highly likely that some foundations, or at the least construction cuts, are extant in the soil profile.

Buildings 18-21 may only have low to moderate archaeological potential as they were not as large or robust and therefore their impact on the ground surface is less likely to remain detectable after their removal. Though it is possible that deeper post holes or the lower courses of brick piers may remain, depending on the construction type of the buildings.

In addition to the structures themselves are the discard activities associated with them. Some open ground remained undeveloped to the south of Area C. If the area was not surfaced, there may be shallow artefact scatters or rubbish pits in these areas related to the owners or occupants of that particular allotment. However, if the area was surfaced it precludes deposition and minimises archaeological potential except for the surface itself. Given the intensive commercial use, this is the most likely scenario. And in fact, this scenario has already occurred. A prior study identified that in 2002 some of the archaeological potential of this area was realised when Council workers uncovered a “heavy duty stone pathway, believed to have been used for deliveries by horse and cart to a warehouse which previously occupied the site on the north-western corner of Darby and King Streets”.²⁴ The discovery was recorded and then covered with a protective layer of sand before the area was re-paved. Though, if the site was repaved, perhaps it was located in the pedestrian path along Darby Street rather than Civic Park itself. Regardless, the discovery points to a high potential for substantial early to mid-20th century remains.

Ultimately, the archaeological potential of this area will be better informed with further study into the purpose of the structures over their lifetimes. Current research suggests Area C hosted timberyards, G. H. Varley’s engineering workshops and Newcastle Fibrous Plaster Works. If any of these industries required subsurface features such as mechanical pits found in garages, this would further increase the archaeological potential of the structures as the deeper features would have been filled in and should still be present in the soil profile.

Area C is considered to have high archaeological potential.

²³ Sydney Environmental and Soil Laboratory (March 2005) 3.

²⁴ Heritas (March 2010) 10.
Newcastle Herald, 25th May 2002.

3.3.4 Area D

Rail tracks were usually salvaged when lines were decommissioned, this is most likely the case for the study site. Therefore, the archaeological potential related to the tracks is likely limited to in situ wooden sleepers, ghosts of removed sleepers, earthworks such as ballast or similar construction levelling fills, or perhaps evidence of track removal such as decommission cuts and levelling fills. Historically there were no fences associated with the rail corridors through the park, though there may be evidence of four post holes for the electricity supply poles along the Burwood Line (Figure 3.14) and two or more post holes near the King Street and Darby Street road intersections for the rail signal posts. The AAC line may also have had similar electricity supply posts along its track. The stone retaining wall may be extant, though it occurs within the redeveloped and landscaped area of the Captain Cook Memorial Fountain, so it is more likely that it has been disturbed or removed and its potential is low. Also, the rail corridors may be associated with additional undocumented infrastructure from throughout their use, these features have unknown potential.

Area D is considered to have low archaeological potential.

3.3 HISTORICAL IMAGES



Figure 3.1 1830-1850 Plan of Newcastle, general area of study site in red
NRL LHM B. 333.3/16.



Figure 3.2 1857 plan of Newcastle, study site, outlined in red, occupied by Burwood and A.A. Co. rail lines.
SR Map 4405.

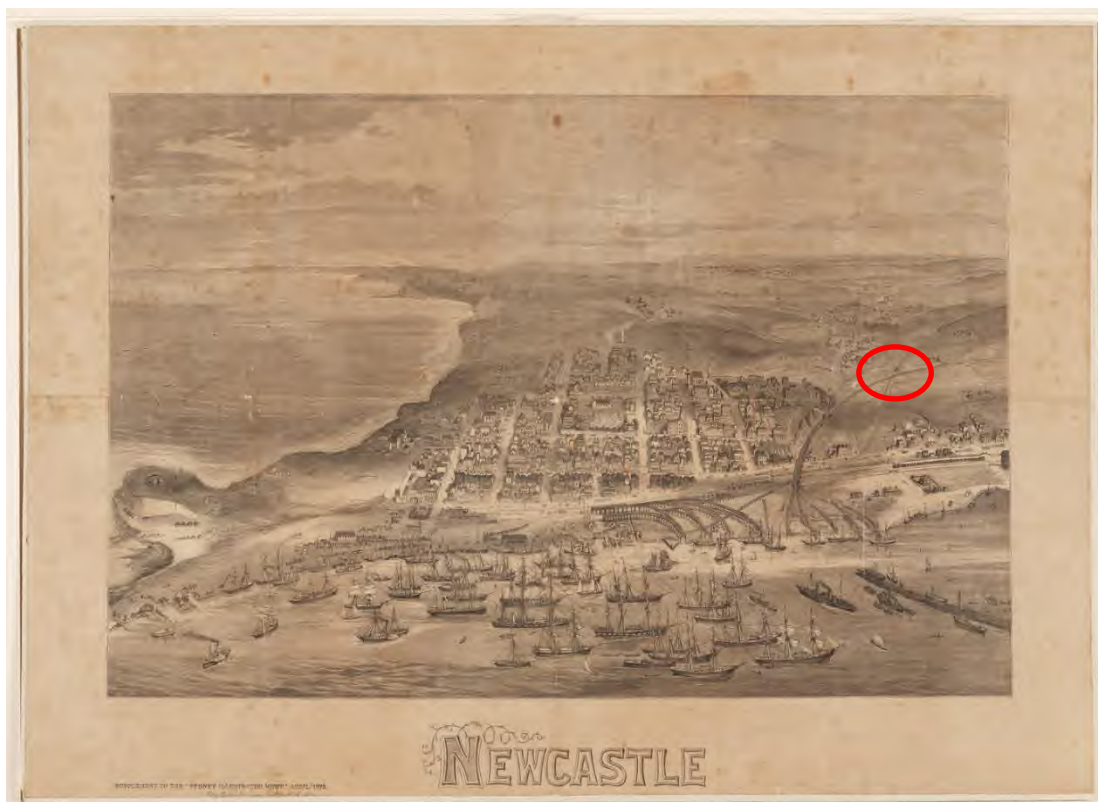


Figure 3.3 1874 view of Newcastle, study area highlighted in red.
Cooke and Calvert.

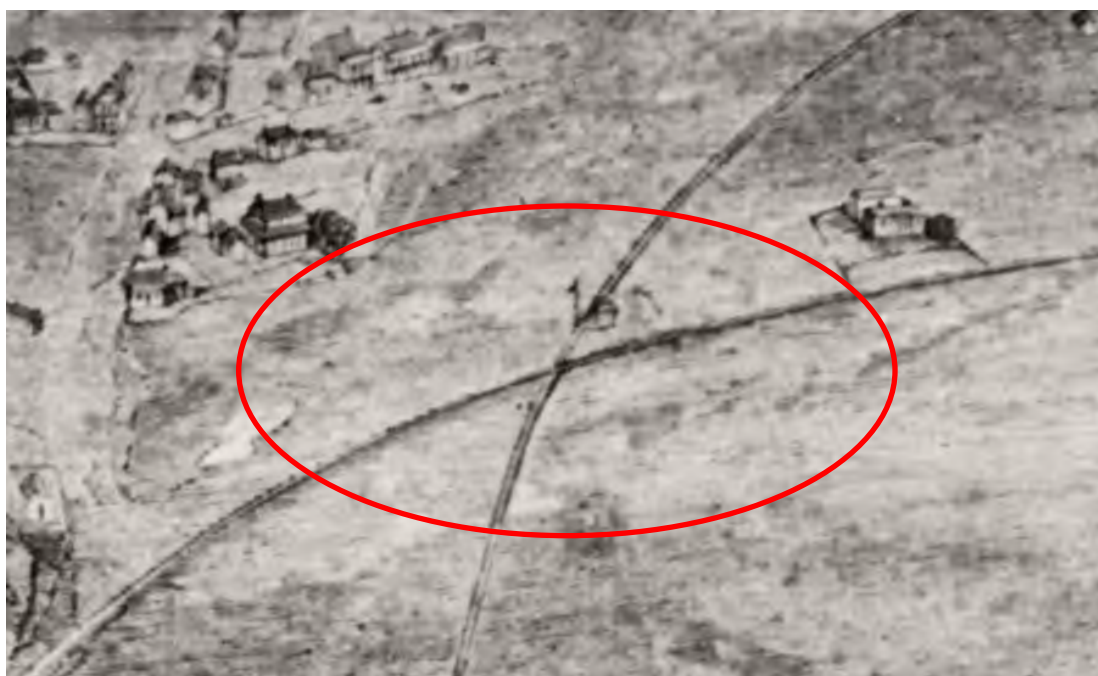


Figure 3.4 Excerpt from a copy of a lithograph of Newcastle, 1874. Study area highlighted in red.
University of Newcastle Cultural Collection, Map M2329.

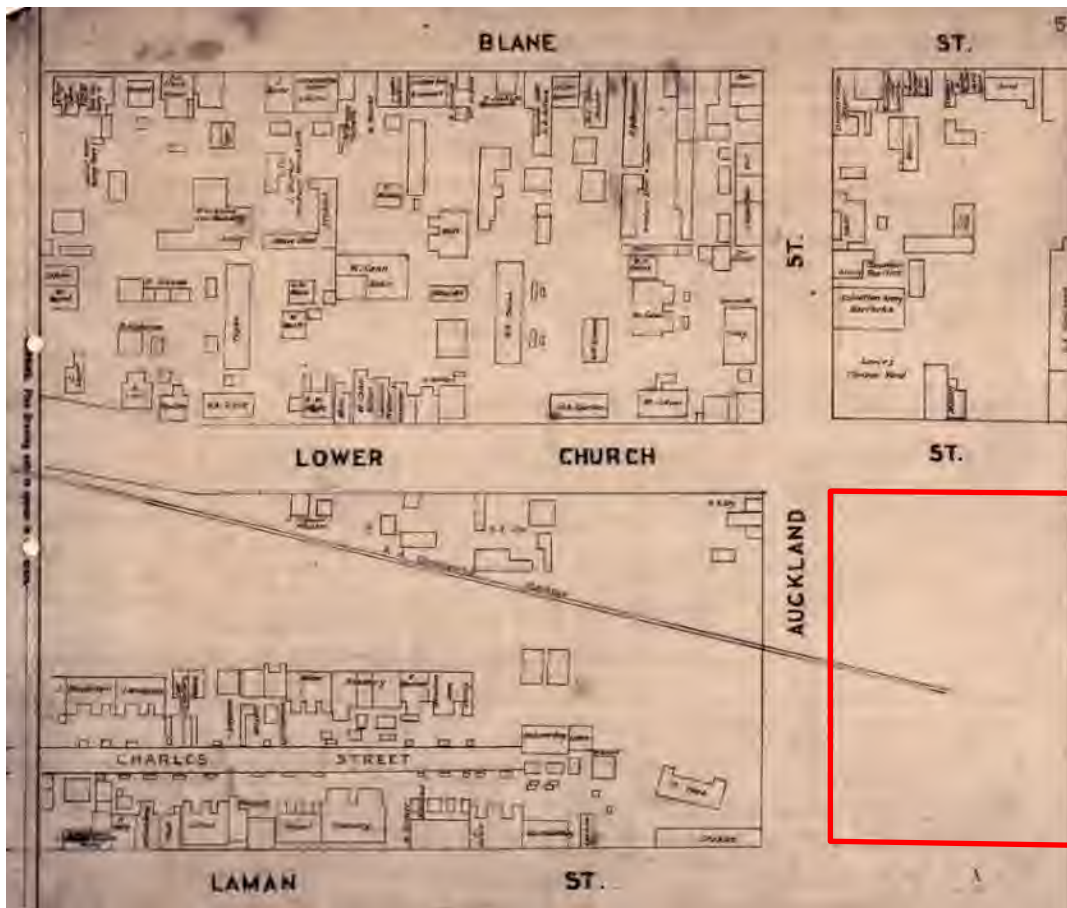


Figure 3.5 1886 Mahlstedt and Gee survey of Newcastle, Sheet 5.
Study area in red.
University of Newcastle, Cultural Collections M2034A.
Detail of the study site is excluded by this image and by Sheets 5, 6 and 16.



Figure 3.6 Excerpt from 1887 plan of Newcastle.
R. C. Knaggs and Co. Newcastle, Government Printing Office.
NLA Map RM 1588.

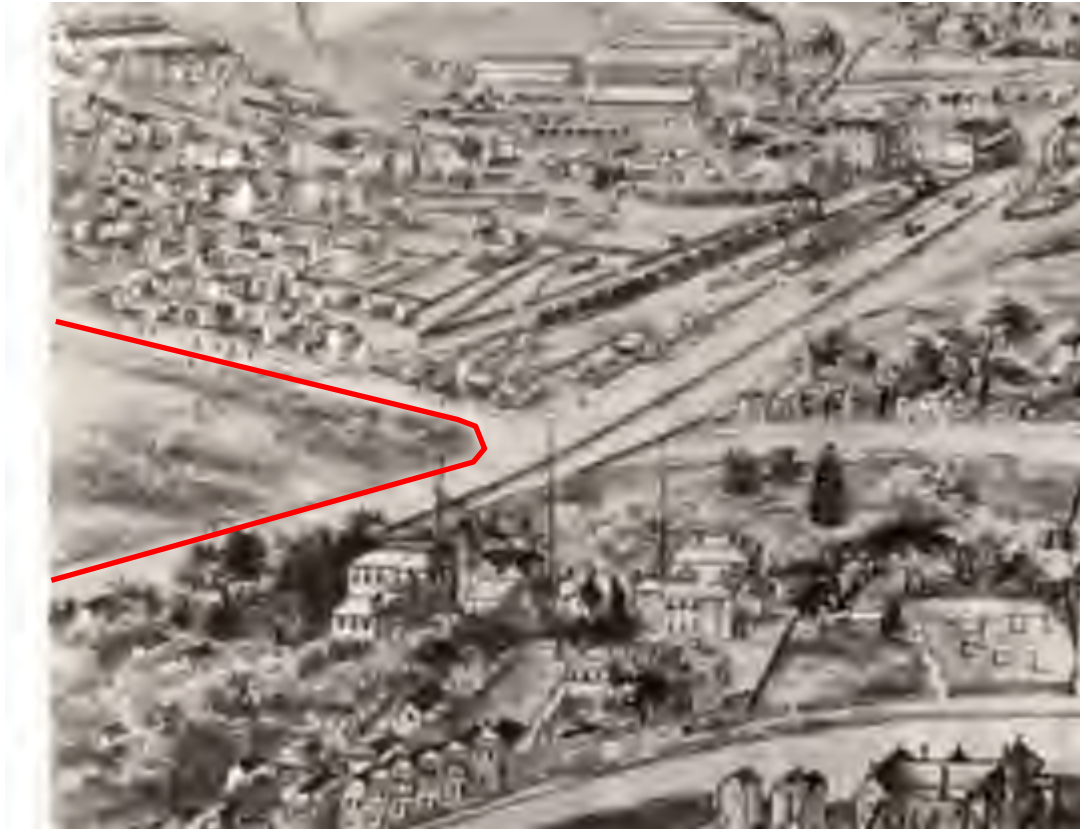


Figure 3.7 Excerpt from 1889 lithograph of Newcastle, study site in red.
Panorama of Newcastle, 1889, by A. Scott Broad.
University of Newcastle, Cultural Collections M2121.

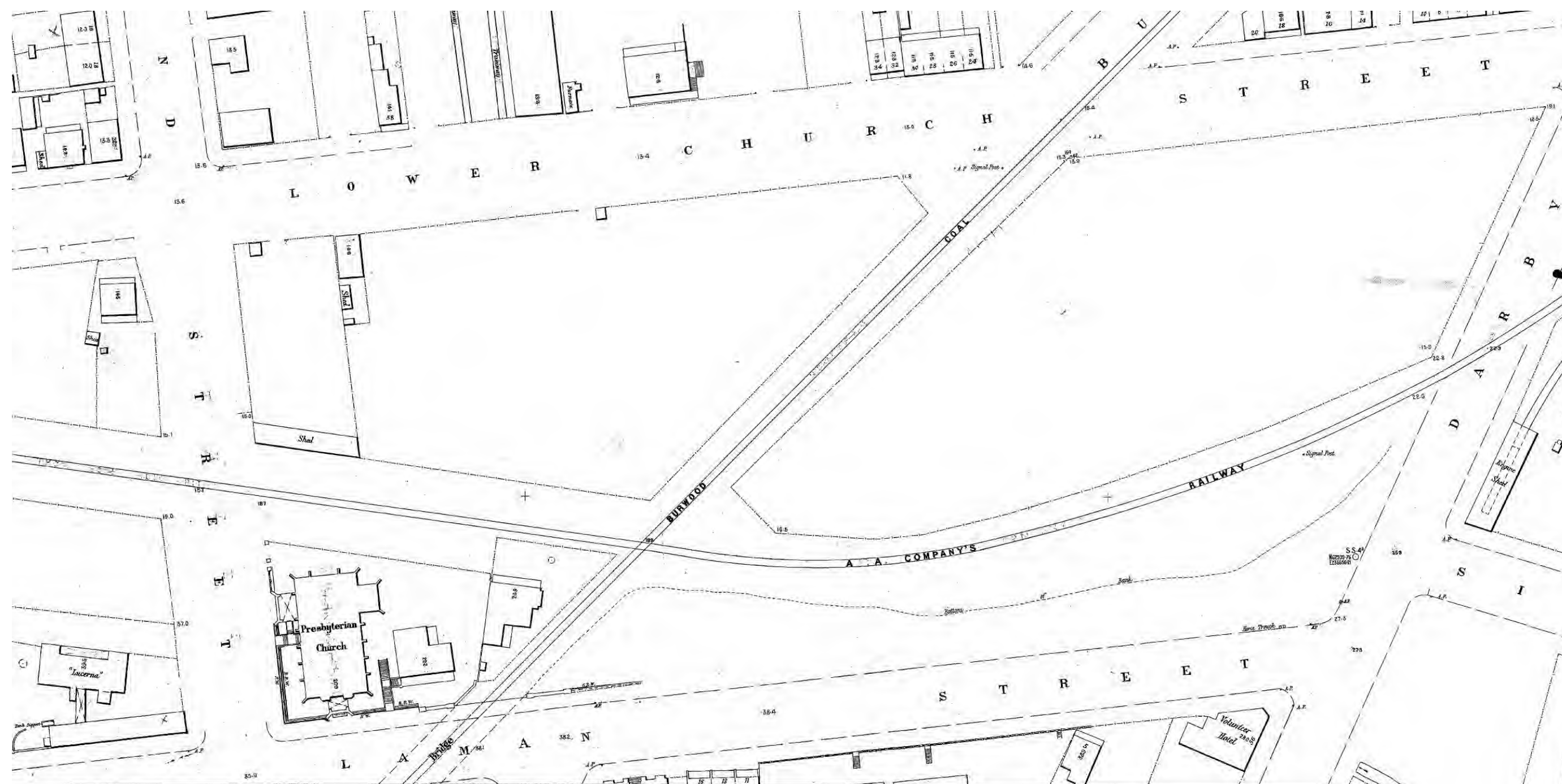


Figure 3.8 1896 plan of Newcastle, Civic Park.
Development shown at corner of Lower Church and Auckland Streets.

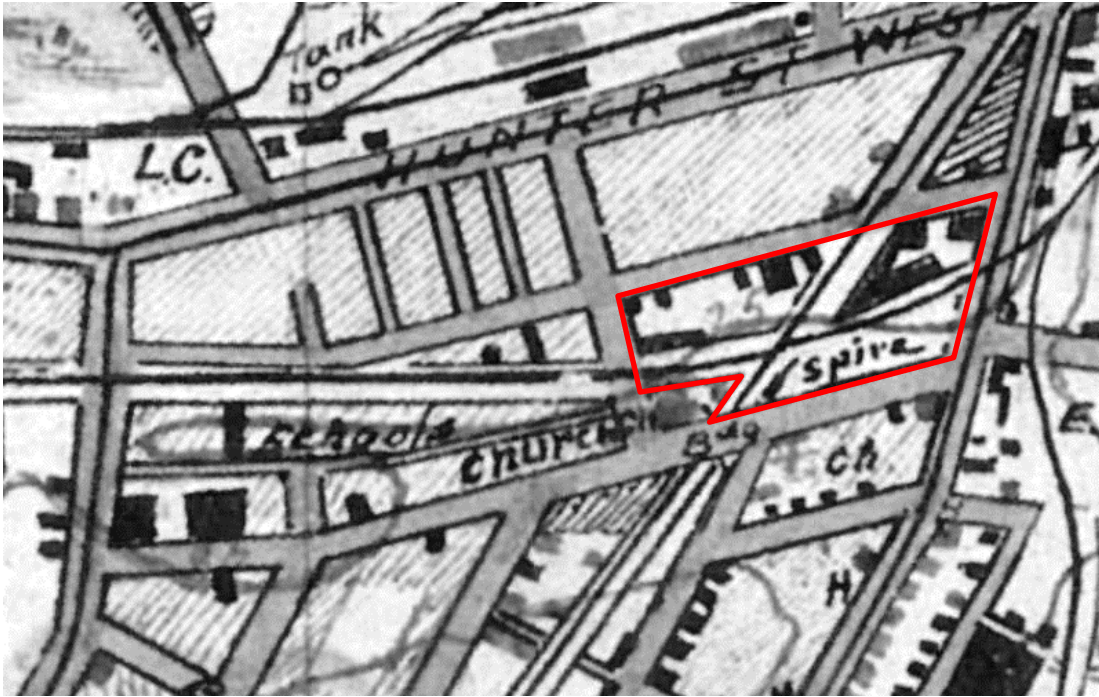


Figure 3.9 1910 map of Newcastle.
 Map of the Country around Newcastle, NSW, (1910).
 A. Barrett L. Cpl. Royal Engineers.
 University of Newcastle, Cultural Collections M4631.



Figure 3.10 1916 Newcastle Harbour plan, study site in red.
 University of Newcastle, Cultural Collections M4819.



Figure 3.11 1916 Parish Map of Newcastle, study area in red.
 “under L. G. Act & vested in... Newcastle City Co. for Elec. Supply Purps.
 Gaz 22.11.29. 1a, 2r, 22 6/10p.”
 NSW Department of Lands.



Figure 3.12 1934 view of Newcastle Town Hall from Civic Park, facing northeast.



Figure 3.13 1934 view of Civic Park and Laman Street from across Burwood Line.



Figure 3.14 Post-1939 aerial photograph of Civic Park and surrounds.
Recovered Memories: Newcastle and the Hunter (2011, 15).



Figure 3.15 Excerpt from Figure 3.14 showing seven separate structures in early 20th century industrial development along Darby and King Streets. Recovered Memories: Newcastle and the Hunter (2011, 15).



Figure 3.16 1945 Part 1 of 3 panorama from Newcastle Town Hall overlooking Civic Park southeast towards Tyrell St.



Figure 3.17 1945 Part 2 of 3 panorama from Newcastle Town Hall overlooking Civic Park southeast towards Laman St.



Figure 3.18 1945 Part 3 of 3 panorama from Newcastle Town Hall overlooking Civic Park southwest towards Laman St and St Andrews.



Figure 3.19 1945 corner of King Street and Auckland Street, facing southwest.



Figure 3.20 1945 view of Civic Park land from Laman Street near juncture with Burwood Coal rail line, facing northeast.

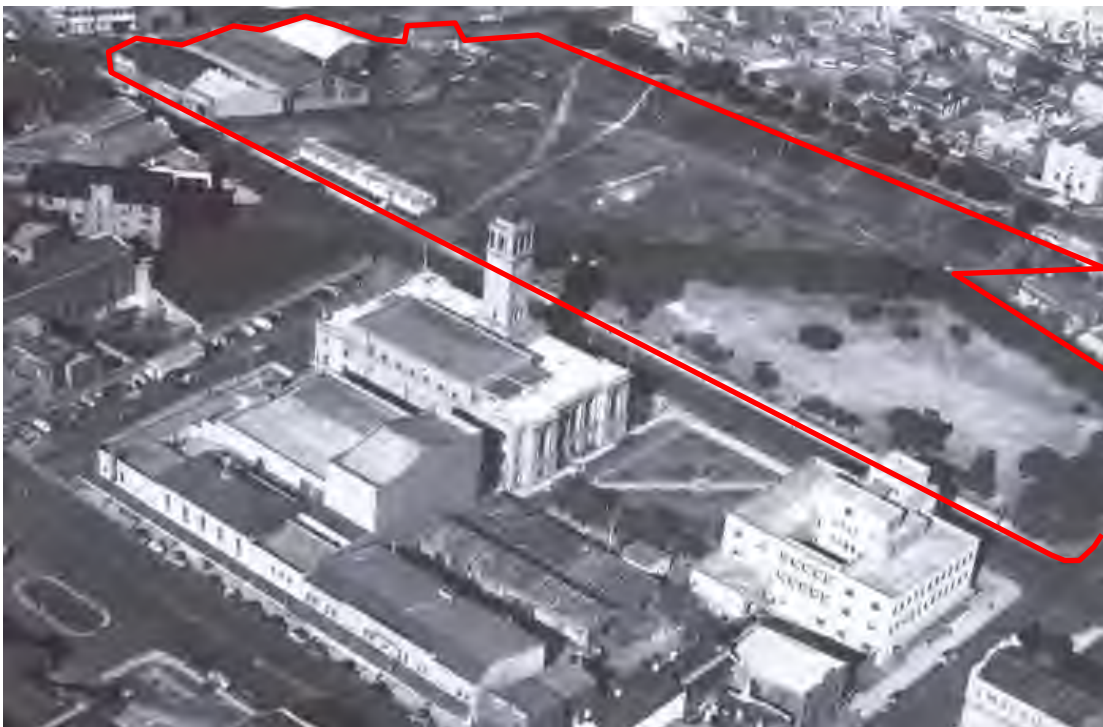


Figure 3.21 A c1945 aerial photograph showing 20th century development, study site outlined in red.
Recovered Memories: Newcastle and the Hunter (2011, page 182).

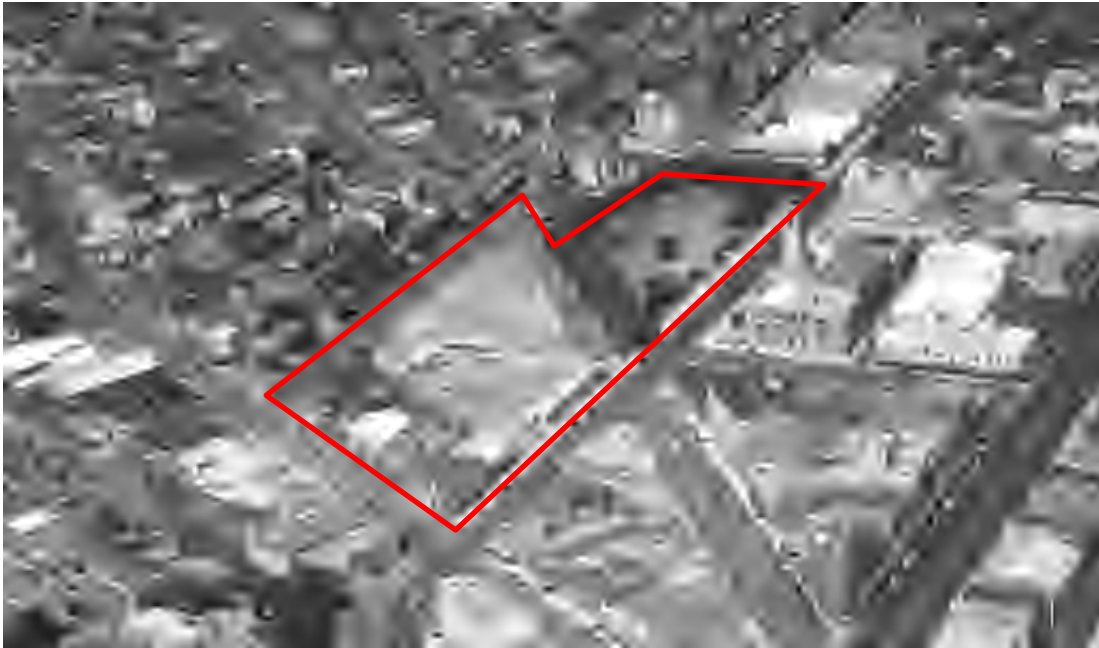


Figure 3.22 1950 aerial view of Newcastle, Civic Park study site outlined in red. Hunter Photo Bank, Register Number 014000070.



Figure 3.23 Excerpt from 1954 aerial photograph of Newcastle, study site in red. Newcastle Run 5, 22/7/1954.



Figure 3.24 Aerial view of Civic Park, date unknown, c.1960.
 Hunter Photo Bank Reg. No. 163001933).

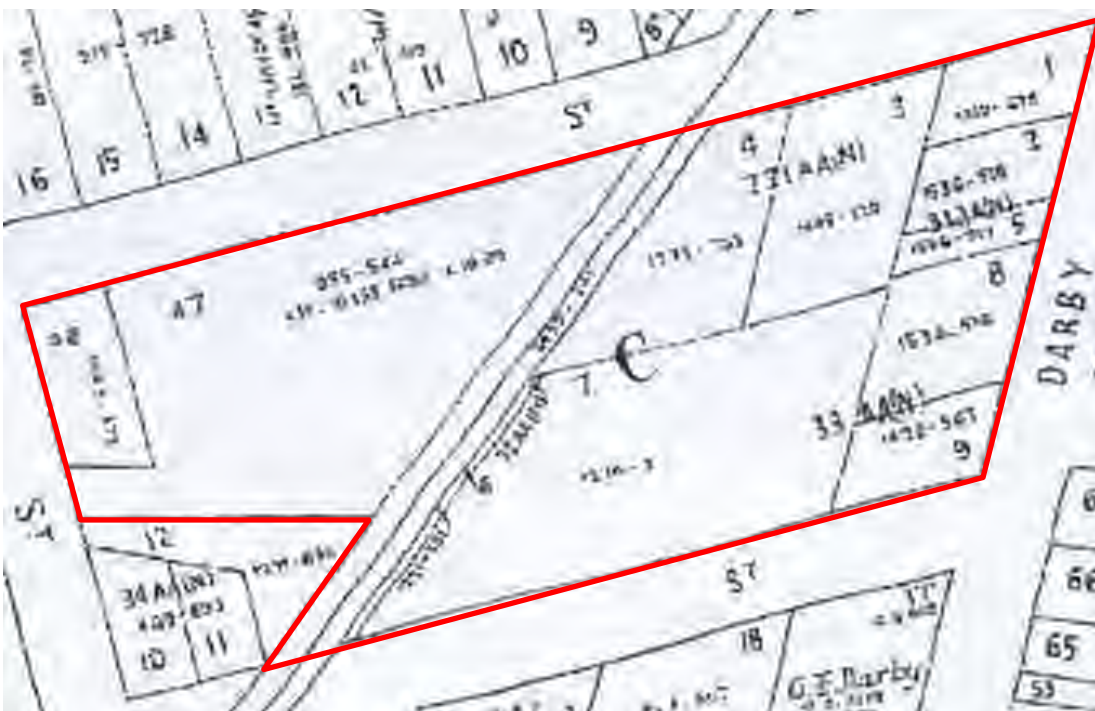


Figure 3.25 1970 Plan of the AAC estate, study site in red.
 Plan of Part of the Eastern Portion of the A.A. Company's Estate.
 Registrar General's Office DP 978941 Sht. 1/2 Frame 1.

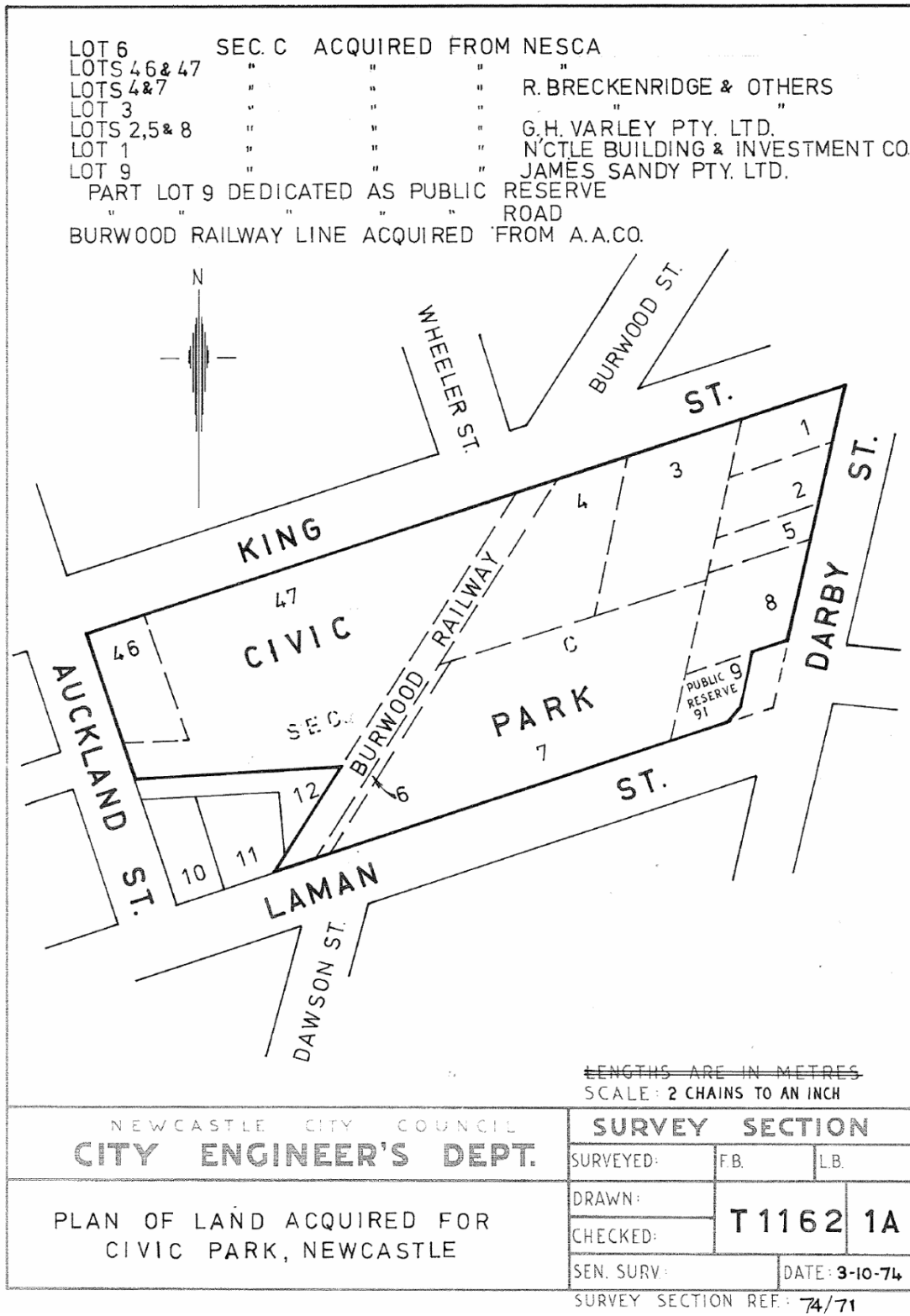


Figure 3.26 Newcastle City Council acquires Lots 6, 46 and 47 from Nesca.
 Newcastle City Council City Engineers Department.

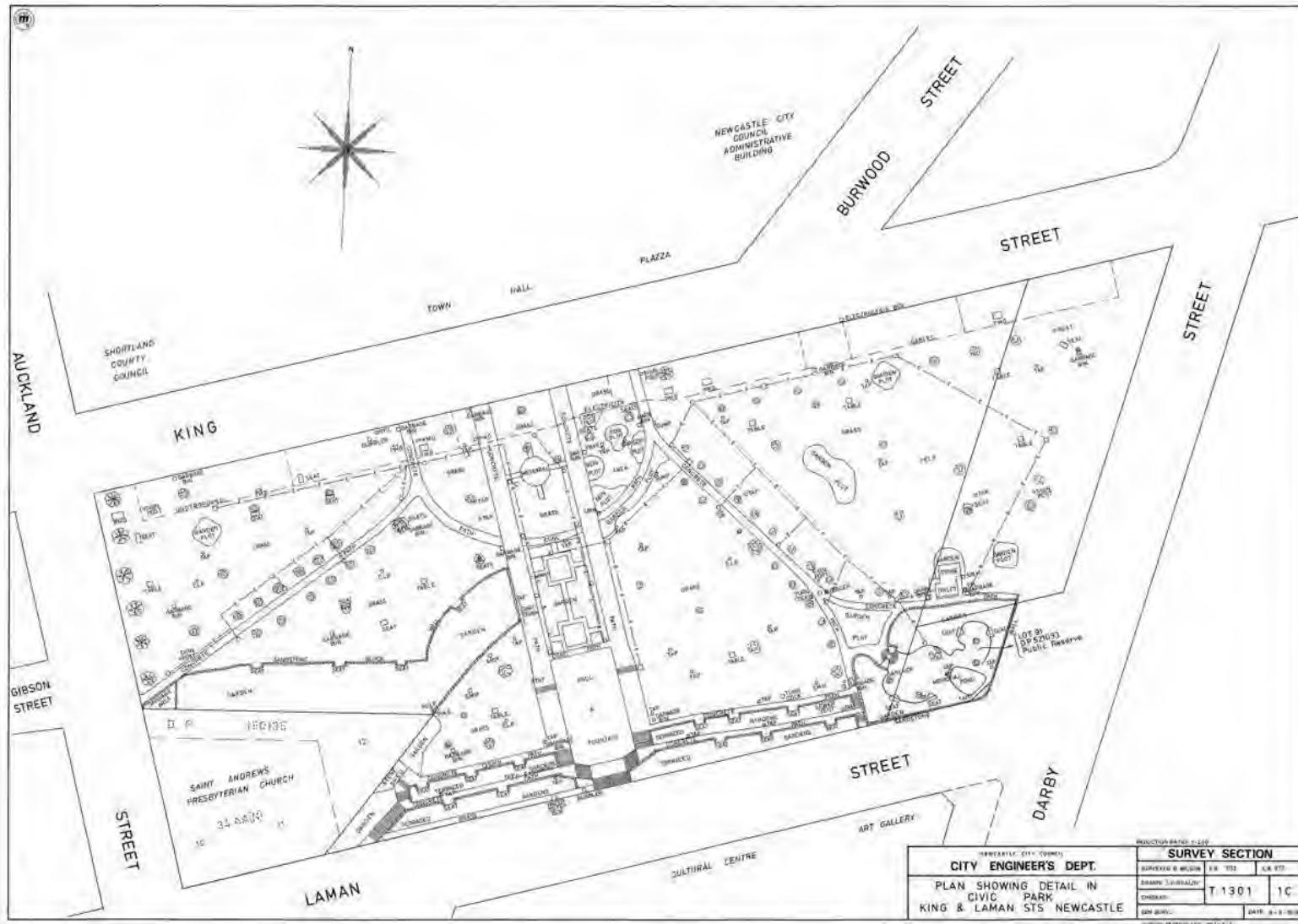


Figure 3.27 1979 survey of Civic Park.
Newcastle City Council City Engineers Department.

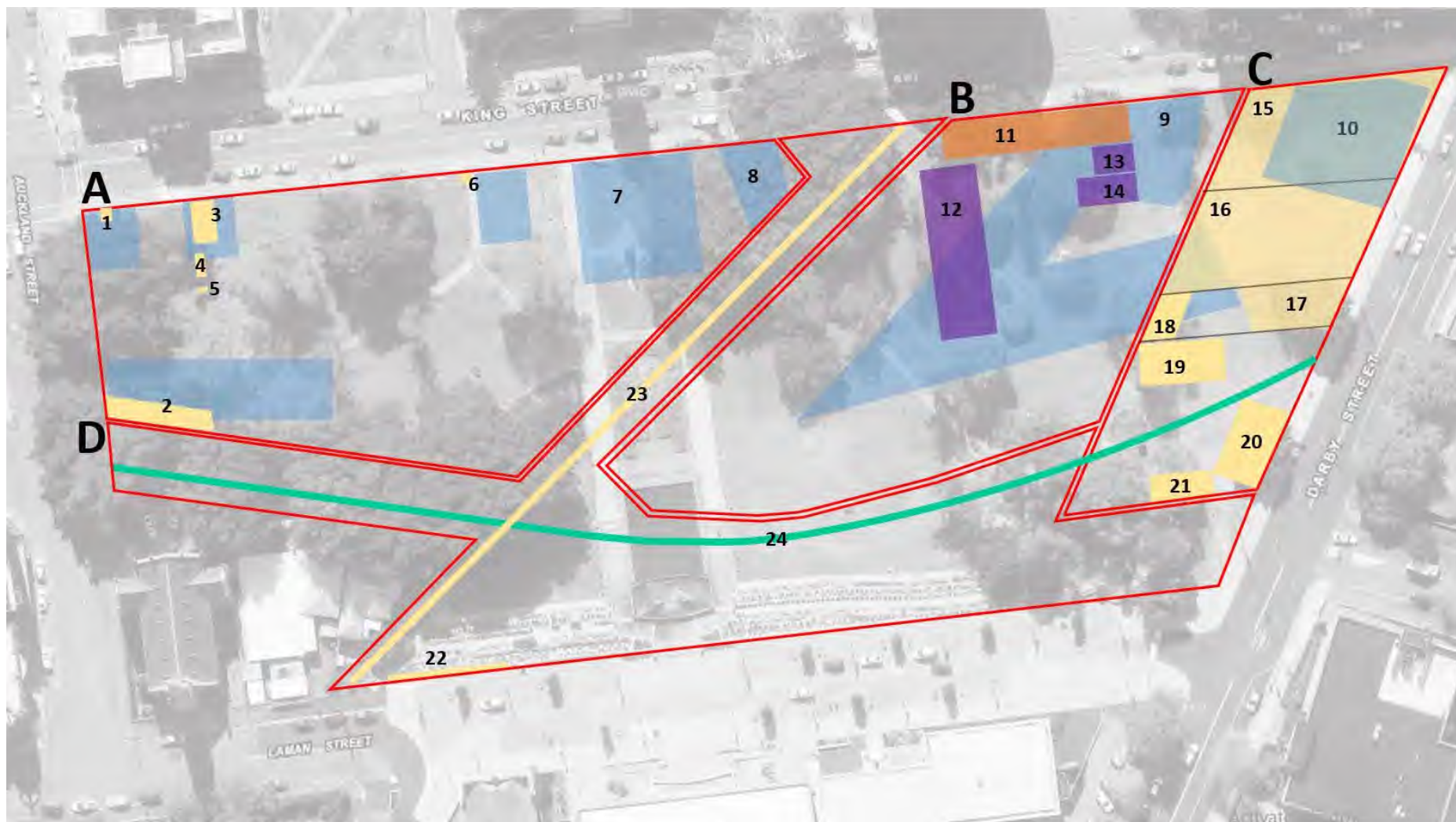


Figure 3.28 Civic Park archaeological potential and historical development phases in Areas A, B, C and D.
 See Tables 3.1 and 3.2 for keys to this overlay.
 J. Baloh (2016).

Table 3.1 Historical Development Phases for Civic Park - Figure 3.28

Colour	Historical Development Phase
None	Pre-Railway Phase (c.1800-c.1840) No known development
	Australian Agricultural Company Phase (c.1840-c.1854)
	Australian Agricultural Company and Burwood Line Phase (c.1854-1920) 1896 Plan – location/size of structures reliable
	Australian Agricultural Company and Burwood Line Phase (c.1854-1920) 1910 Map - location/size of structures less reliable
	Burwood Line and Council Phase (c.1920-1958)
	Post-Railway Civic Park Phase (1958-2016)

Table 3.2 Archaeological Potential: Item Numbers

Item Number	Overlay Area	Historical Source	Description
Pre-Railway Phase (c.1800-c.1840)			
No known development.			
Australian Agricultural Company Phase (c.1840-c.1854)			
24	D	1896 plan	Australian Agricultural Company Railway
Australian Agricultural Company and Burwood Line Phase (c.1854-1920)			
23	D	1896 plan	Burwood Coal Company Railway
22	D	1896 plan	Stone retaining wall
1	A	1896 plan 1910 map	Building
2	A	1896 plan 1910 map	Shed
3	A	1896 plan 1910 map	Building
4	A	1896 plan	Shed
5	A	1896 plan	Outbuilding
6	A	1896 plan 1910 map	Building
7	A	1910 map	Building

8	A	1910 map	Building
9	B	1910 map	Building
10	C	1910 map	Building
15	C	c.post-1939 photo	Warehouse
16	C	c.post-1939 photo	Warehouse
17	C	c.post-1939 photo	Warehouse
18	C	c.post-1939 photo	Single-storey building
19	C	c.post-1939 photo	Shed
20	C	c.post-1939 photo	Single-storey building
21	C	c.post-1939 photo	Shed
Burwood Line and Council Phase (c.1920-1958)			
11	B	c.1945 photo	Single-storey building
Post-Railway Civic Park Phase (1958-2016)			
12	B	c.1960 photo	Single-storey building
13	B	c.1960 photo	Single-storey building
14	B	c.1960 photo	Single-storey building
Air Raid Trench	Unknown	Newcastle Morning Herald The Newcastle Sun	WW2 'zig-zag' air raid trench

4.0 SIGNIFICANCE: HERITAGE ACT 1977

4.1 BACKGROUND

In order to assess the significance of Civic Park's historical archaeology to a standard acceptable by the Heritage Division, a full archaeological assessment would be required. However, it is possible to broadly identify areas of potential significance based on the current research.

4.2 METHODOLOGY

The current standard for assessment of significance of heritage items in NSW is the publication 'Assessing Significance for Historical Archaeological Sites and 'Relics'' produced by the Heritage Branch of the NSW Department of Planning (December 2009). This production is an update to the NSW Heritage Manual (1996), and the criteria detailed therein are a revised version of those of the Australia ICOMOS Burra Charter, formulated in 1979, which was based largely on the Venice Charter (for International Heritage) of 1966.

Archaeological heritage significance can also be viewed in light of the framework set out by Bickford and Sullivan in 1984.²⁵ Bickford and Sullivan, taking into consideration the "archaeological, scientific or research significance" of a site posed three questions in order to identify significance:

1. Can the site contribute knowledge which no other resource can?
2. Can the site contribute knowledge which no other site can?
3. Is this knowledge relevant to general questions about human history or other substantive problems relating to Australian history, or does it contribute to other major research questions?²⁶

These questions have been broadly used to shape the response to the heritage significance criteria as described in Section 4.3.

The criteria and the definitions provided by 'Assessing Significance for Historical Archaeological Sites and 'Relics'' have been adhered to in assessing the cultural significance of the potential archaeological site at Civic Park, Newcastle. An assessment of significance, under each of the criteria, is made possible by an analysis of the broad body of archaeological sites previously excavated both locally and elsewhere, in conjunction with the historical overview of the study site in particular.

The Criteria used to assess Heritage Significance in NSW are the following:

Table 4.1 Criteria for Assessing Heritage in NSW

Criterion	Description	Significance
Criterion A	An item is important in the course, or pattern, of NSW's or the local area's cultural or natural history	State significant or locally significant
Criterion B	An item has strong or special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons,	State significant or locally significant

²⁵ Bickford and Sullivan (1984)

²⁶ Bickford and Sullivan (1984), p.23-4

	of importance in NSW's or a local area's cultural or natural history	
Criterion C	An item is important in demonstrating aesthetic characteristics and/or a high degree of creative or technical achievement in NSW or the local area	State significant or locally significant
Criterion D	An item has strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group in NSW or a local area for social, cultural or spiritual reasons	State significant or locally significant
Criterion E	An item has potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of NSW's or a local area's cultural or natural history	State significant or locally significant
Criterion F	An item possesses uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of NSW's or a local area's cultural or natural history	State significant or locally significant
Criterion G	An item is important in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of NSW's or a local area's <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - cultural or natural places; or - cultural or natural environments 	State significant or locally significant

The following discussion deals only with sub-surface archaeological features and deposits. The built environment is not considered in this study.

4.3 POTENTIAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL SIGNIFICANCE

The potential archaeological significance for Civic Park will be discussed in terms of the criteria set out in Table 3.1 and, hereinafter, using the boundaries of Areas A, B, C and D as set out in Section 2.2.

4.3.1 Area A

The potential significance of the potential archaeology of Area A has three separate facets for consideration:

Firstly, in terms of the possible c.1857 rail branch from the AAC line. If it indeed existed, and if it was found intact and in situ, the track may satisfy Criterion A and B at a local level as a part of the historically significant AAC rail network. If evidence of the track is discovered, even without the rails intact, it may also satisfy Criterion E at a local level for contributing to the historical record as the track was only documented in one c.1857 plan.

Secondly, in terms of the c.1896-c.1920 commercial or industrial structures and potential timberyards along Auckland and King Streets. According to the available documentary records this area was sparsely developed during a short period of time. As individual, isolated structures or disturbed examples, the archaeology is unlikely to be considered locally significant. If, however, extensive intact remains are found that relate to the short term intensive use of the study site, the archaeological potential of this area may satisfy Criterion E for contributing to an understanding of the historical use of the area – particularly if heavy industry took place there and the archaeology demonstrates greater activity than the existing records suggest.

Thirdly, in terms of the World War 2 emergency air raid trench. If this indeed existed on the study site, it has potential to satisfy Criteria A, B, C and D at a local level – particularly if it is associated with in-situ infrastructure as opposed to just a cut and fill interface in the soil profile. The trench may not fulfil Criterion E at a local level as

the trench was documented in the newspapers and many similar trenches were dug across Newcastle and Sydney. The benefit of locating the trench in an archaeological sense is to confirm its presence in Civic Park, as the feature does not appear to occur in any photography yet available for the study site.

Overall, the potential significance of the archaeology in Area A may retain up to potential local significance.

4.3.2 Area B

Unless further information is forthcoming in regards to Breckenridge Timberyard's early 20th century association within the area east of the railway, the historical development of Area B did not take place until the mid-20th century. The structures built there were intended to be temporary and small scale. The archaeological potential of Area B is likely to be low and the material is not likely to meet the threshold for local archaeological significance according to the NSW criteria.

Overall, the archaeology of Area B is unlikely to hold local or state significance.

4.3.3 Area C

The archaeological potential of Area C is characterised by a short but intense burst of industrial construction and activity between c.1910 to c.1960. As a relatively late development in terms of the age of the settlement at Newcastle, the individual structures and associated deposits themselves are not considered likely to meet the threshold for local level archaeological significance. However, taken as a group, if the remains survive intact on a large scale, then the industrial area could be said to represent a short-lived trend in the pattern of development of the city of Newcastle. If extensive structural remains were discovered associated with extensive deposition, Area C may satisfy Criterion E at a local level, though dependent on the nature, extent and condition of the archaeology.

Overall, the archaeology of Area C may retain potential local significance.

4.3.4 Area D

This area includes the rail corridors for the AAC line and the Burwood line. The archaeological potential in this area is, however, low – being limited to wooden sleepers or ghosts of sleepers, post holes for signal posts and electricity supply poles, a stone retaining wall and the railway itself. It is unlikely that the metal tracks remain in situ, the most likely remains include earthworks for the construction of the rail or evidence of their removal. If the archaeology related to the c.1850s installation of the rail, rather than its mid-20th century removal, was found intact and in situ - the track may satisfy Criterion A and B at a local level as a part of the historically significant AAC rail network.

Overall, the archaeology of Area D may retain potential local significance.

5.0 RECOMMENDATIONS: HERITAGE ACT 1977

5.1 BACKGROUND

Civic Park is listed on the State Heritage Inventory (SHI) and on the Newcastle Local Environment Plan as Item I430. In both instances the park is considered to hold local significance, but that significance is primarily vested in its function as a modern park in the Newcastle city centre. Its historical association with the AAC and Burwood lines is of secondary consideration on the State Heritage Inventory.

5.2 RECOMMENDATIONS

The recommendations below are based on the overview of current research pertaining to archaeological potential in Civic Park (Section 3.2) and the potential significance of that archaeology (Section 4.3). The table is set out to compare items with archaeological potential to their potential significance in terms of the NSW Heritage Act 1977 and recommendations for future action. The table can be viewed in conjunction with the historical overlay Figure 3.28.

Table 5.1 Recommendations

Item	Overlay Area	Potential Date	Description	Range of Potential Significance	Future Action
1	A	c.1896	Building	Not local or state significant to locally significant	Assess archaeology based on proposed future impacts.
2	A	c.1896	Shed	Not local or state significant to locally significant	Assess archaeology based on proposed future impacts.
3	A	c.1896	Building	Not local or state significant to locally significant	Assess archaeology based on proposed future impacts.
4	A	c.1896	Shed	Not local or state significant to locally significant	Assess archaeology based on proposed future impacts.
5	A	c.1896	Outbuilding	Not local or state significant to locally significant	Assess archaeology based on proposed future impacts.
6	A	c.1896	Building	Not local or state significant to locally significant	Assess archaeology based on proposed future impacts.
7	A	c.1910	Building	Not local or state significant to locally significant	Assess archaeology based on proposed future impacts.
8	A	c.1910	Building	Not local or state significant to locally significant	Assess archaeology based on proposed future impacts.
9	A	c.1910	Building	Not local or state significant to locally significant	Assess archaeology based on proposed future impacts.

10	C	c.1910	Building	Not local or state significant to locally significant	Assess archaeology based on proposed future impacts.
11	B	c.1945	Single-storey building	Not likely local or state significant	Assess archaeology based on proposed future impacts.
12	B	c.1960	Single-storey building	Not likely local or state significant	Assess archaeology based on proposed future impacts.
13	B	c.1960	Single-storey building	Not likely local or state significant	Assess archaeology based on proposed future impacts.
14	B	c.1960	Single-storey building	Not likely local or state significant	Assess archaeology based on proposed future impacts.
15	C	c.1939	Warehouse	Not local or state significant to locally significant	Assess archaeology based on proposed future impacts.
16	C	c.1939	Warehouse	Not local or state significant to locally significant	Assess archaeology based on proposed future impacts.
17	C	c.1939	Warehouse	Not local or state significant to locally significant	Assess archaeology based on proposed future impacts.
18	C	c.1939	Single-storey building	Not local or state significant to locally significant	Assess archaeology based on proposed future impacts.
19	C	c.1939	Shed	Not local or state significant to locally significant	Assess archaeology based on proposed future impacts.
20	C	c.1939	Single-storey building	Not local or state significant to locally significant	Assess archaeology based on proposed future impacts.
21	C	c.1939	Shed	Not local or state significant to locally significant	Assess archaeology based on proposed future impacts.
22	D	c.1896	Stone retaining wall	Not local or state significant to locally significant	Assess archaeology based on proposed future impacts.
23	D	c.1850	Burwood Coal Company Railway	Locally significant to State significant	Assess archaeology based on proposed future impacts.
24	D	c.1840	Australian Agricultural Company Railway	Locally significant to State significant	Assess archaeology based on proposed future impacts.
Air Raid Trench	Unknown	c.1941	WW2 'zig-zag' air raid trench	Not local or state significant to locally significant	Assess archaeology based on proposed future impacts.

6.0 BIBLIOGRAPHY

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- Government Architects Office Heritage Group (August 2008) Newcastle City Hall Conservation Management Plan, prepared for Newcastle City Council
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- Newcastle Morning Herald (1876-1954)
- NSW Department of Planning and Heritage Council of NSW (2006) *Historical Archaeology Code of Practice*, Heritage Office of the Department of Planning.
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- NSW Heritage Office (2001) *Assessing Heritage Significance*, Heritage Office of the Department of Planning.
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- NSW Heritage Office Department of Urban Affairs and Planning (1996) *Archaeological Assessment: Archaeological Assessment Guidelines.*
- Sydney Environmental and Soil Laboratory (March 2005) Soil Investigations for Civic Park Newcastle, prepared for Newcastle City Council
- The Newcastle Sun (1918-1954)

7.0 APPENDICES

7.1 STATE HERITAGE INVENTORY

Civic Park

Name of item:	Civic Park
Type of item:	Landscape
Group/Collection:	Parks, Gardens and Trees
Category:	Urban Park
Primary address:	201 King Street, Newcastle, NSW 2300
Local govt. area:	Newcastle

All addresses

Street Address	Suburb/town	LGA	Parish	County	Type
201 King Street	Newcastle	Newcastle			Primary Address

Statement of significance:

Civic Park Newcastle is significant in the social and cultural development of the civic life of Newcastle. It was part of the grand design of the Civic 'centre' comprising City Hall, Civic Theatre, Christie Place, Civic Station and later the War Memorial Cultural Centre and Regional Art Gallery. The park is historically significant having been the crossing point of two of Newcastle's most economically important coal railways - being the Australian Agricultural Company's line from the Hamilton coal field which proceeded to the wharf on a raised railroad at King Street; the other was Mitchell's Burwood Coal and Copper Co's railway from the Merewether mines, which crossed through the park, ran along Burwood Street then crossed Hunter Street and finally terminated at the wharf. The Signalman's cottage at the south west edge of the park was constructed in the 1860s to enable safe crossing of the two lines.

The park is a significant focus of cultural life in Newcastle and more broadly the Hunter region as the locus of many community and civic events, such as protests and activism, and cultural activities such as festivals, markets and performances. It contains the captivating bronze water sculpture, the James Cook Memorial Fountain, by the Late Margel Hinder, and acts as a wonderful foreground for the imposingly classical City Hall. The park also

contains items commemorating all of Australia's major conflicts, including trees, monuments and plaques

Date significance updated: 24 Feb 16

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

Description

Physical description:

Important open space adjacent to City Hall. It contains open grassed area and a fountain bisected by two pathways. The hills figs mark the line of the former Newcastle Coal and Copper Company Railway (Burwood railway) which ran through to the wharf across Burwood Street from Mitchell's Merewether mines.

Current use: Open Space

Listings

Heritage Listing	Listing Title	Listing Number	Gazette Date	Gazette Number	Gazette Page
Local Environmental Plan		1430	15 Jun 12	64	
Heritage study					
National Trust of Australia register					

Study details

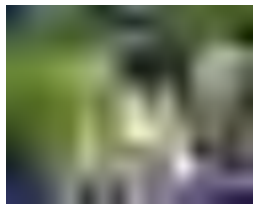
Title	Year	Number	Author	Inspected by	Guidelines used
Newcastle Heritage Study	1990	200	Unknown		Yes

Review of Items of Potential State Significance in the Newcastle City Area	2008		Sue Rosen and Associates Heritage Assessment And History (HAAH)		Yes
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References, internet links & images

None

Note: internet links may be to web pages, documents or images.



(Click on thumbnail for full size image and image details)

Data source

The information for this entry comes from the following source:

Name: Local Government
Database number: 2170200
File number: 200

Appendix F - Interpretation Strategy

Prepared by carste STUDIO

Interpretation of the Layers of the Site.

1.1 Interpretation of the Aboriginal story

THE ABORIGINAL STORY

1. The use of this site by Aboriginal people has been assessed as likely given the distance from a higher order stream. The Hunter River currently lies approximately 360m to the north of the study area. This distance may have been as little as 80m prior to European settlement. The Hunter River and an unnamed creek shown to be less than 200m to the north (AMAC, 2013) are considered higher order streams. The study area may contain artefacts that are representative of concentrated and repeated Aboriginal occupation. The study area has potential to contain Aboriginal objects of conservation value within undisturbed sections. There also remains the potential for disturbed Aboriginal archaeological remains to be present in the study area which may be of interest to the Aboriginal community.
2. The study area may have cultural significance to the Aboriginal community which can only be ascertained by consultation with the contemporary community.

1.2 Interpretation of Industrial Development of the site

CIVIC PARK WAS NOT ALWAYS A PARK

1.2.1 AAC use of Site

The AAC use of the site should be interpreted both in text format and physical interpretation.

1. Interpretation should include the AAC ownership of this land from 1828 as part of the 2000 acre land grant for coal mining. The history of the AAC, its charter and the monopoly of this company could be interpreted as part of the wider historical context. This should be interpreted digitally or with signs
2. Of particular importance as part of the interpretation is the AAC railway line that traversed the site from c1840 until c1920 which should be interpreted as physical interpretation. This does not need to totally traverse the site, though it should be substantial enough to be understood as a railway line through the site.
3. Associated services should also be interpreted, including the signal posts evident in the 1896 plan (Figure 3.8 1896 plan of Newcastle, Civic Park plan).

1.2.2 Burwood Coal and Copper Company use of Site

The Burwood Coal and Copper Company use of the site should be interpreted both in text format, and physical interpretation.

1. Of particular importance as part of the interpretation is the Burwood Coal and Copper Company railway line that traversed the site from 1854 until 1955 which should be interpreted as physical interpretation. This does not need to totally traverse the site, though it should be substantial enough to be understood as a railway line through the site.
2. The building of the tunnel and later overbridge should be interpreted. This could be interpreted digitally or with signs.
3. The history of Burwood Coal and Copper Company railway line which required an Act of Parliament to use AAC land should be interpreted. This could be interpreted digitally or with signs.
4. The 1934 panoramic views of the site and the Burwood Coal and Copper Company railway line and fig trees that defined the line should be interpreted digitally or with signs.

INTERPRETATION STRATEGY

1.2.3 Timber Yards

The use of the site for timber yards should be interpreted in text format.

1. Interpretation should include the use of the eastern section of the site by Breckenridge as a timber yard until the 1960s.
2. Interpretation should include the use of the western section of the site by Andrew Cook as a timber yard.

1.2.4 Other Industrial Uses

The use of the site for other industrial uses should be interpreted in text format.

1. Interpretation should include the use of the western section of the site by Windmill Manufacturers P.W. Russell and Co. prior to 1929 and interpretation of the buildings that are evident on the 1896 (Figure 3.8 1896 plan of Newcastle, Civic Park plan) and the 1910 plan⁹⁹.
2. Interpretation should include the use of the eastern section of the site by G.H. Varleys engineering workshops and Newcastle fibrous plaster works.

1.2.5 Interpretation of Other Uses of the Site

The development of the site for other uses should be interpreted in text format.

1. Interpretation should include the use of the site in the 1940s as a cricket pitch for the Police Citizens Boys Club located in the central area of the eastern section of the site.
2. Interpretation should also include the use of the eastern section of the site as music tuition rooms from 1945 until c1981.
3. More research is required to interpret the use of the site for trenches in WWII¹⁰⁰. The use of the site for a music shell in 1951 is also required to be researched in order to interpret this use and the location.¹⁰¹ Further research is also required for the location of buildings used as “extensions to the Central Children’s Library”.¹⁰²

1.3 Interpretation of Newcastle Council use of site

THE BEGINNINGS OF A PARK

The gradual acquisition of the site and use by Newcastle Council culminating in its use as a civic park should be interpreted in text format.

1.3.1 Western Section - the beginnings of a Civic Park

1. Interpretation should include the purchase of the western section of the site by Newcastle Council in 1929 not for a park but for the purpose of administrative buildings related to Newcastle electricity.
2. It is important that this interpretation displays this area as the first step in the process of creating a park when W. Grant from Sydney’s Botanic Gardens prepared a layout.
3. The gradual acquisition should be interpreted including the purchase of two more parcels of land on the other side of the then Burwood railway line between Laman and King St and that it was not until 1958 that Newcastle City Council acquired the remaining coal line allowing these parcels to be continuous.¹⁰³

⁹⁹ Map of the Country around Newcastle, NSW, (1910).A. Barrett L. Cpl. Royal Engineers.University of Newcastle, Cultural Collections M4631.

¹⁰⁰ *Newcastle Morning Herald*, 16th December 1941, p.2. (Credit for pointing this usage out goes to AMAC.)

¹⁰¹ *The Newcastle Sun*, 10th March 1951, p.1.

¹⁰² *Newcastle Morning Herald*, 20th March 1952, p.2.

¹⁰³ Entertainment Committee, Report of Town Clerk No 24.

INTERPRETATION STRATEGY

1.3.2 Purchase of Railway

1. Interpretation should include the purchase of the original Burwood Coal and Copper Company railway line by Newcastle Council in 1958. This could be included in the text display for the railway history and / or the development of the site as a park by Newcastle Council.

1.3.3 Purchase of Eastern Section and use as Car Park – end of Industrial use

1. Interpretation should include the gradual acquisition of the eastern section of the site by Newcastle Council and the transition of this section of the site used for warehouses, buildings for music tuition and the remainder of vacant land. The gradual acquisitions in 1938, 1946, 1947 should all be interpreted (refer to Appendix B chronology of acquisitions). The Interpretation should include the use of the site by Newcastle Council including a car park in c1960.
2. The interpretation of the eastern section of the park should include the acquisition in 1964 of the final parcels adjoining Darby Street. This allowed the whole site between King and Laman Streets, bounded by Darby and Auckland Streets to be envisaged as Civic Park.¹⁰⁴ It was not until 1979 that Civic Park was dedicated as a Public Reserve.

1.3.4 Terrace and Fountain

The development of the terrace and fountain should be interpreted in text format.

1. Interpretation should include the history of the fountain and the design competition in 1961. A short bibliography of Margel Hinder should be included and other creative work by this sculptor. The abstract nature of this creative work should be explained.
2. The interpretation should explain that the naming as the Captain James Cook Memorial Fountain was in order to obtain funding and is not associated with the abstract sculpture. The plaque commemorating the later naming of the fountain should be altered or removed:
 - Consider altering plaque “ to commemorate the bi-centenary of his discovery of the east coast of Australia” to suggested new wording: to commemorate the bi-centenary of his mapping of the east coast of Australia.
 - Consider removing commemoration to James Cook and dedicating to the sculptor, Margel Hinder.
3. Interpretation should include the building of the sandstone terrace in the 1960s and photographic evidence of the site prior to the sandstone walls.

1.4 Interpretation of the Memorial Grove and Other Memorials

A CONTEMPLATIVE AND MEMORIAL PLACE

The development of the Memorial Grove should be interpreted in text format.

1. Interpretation should include the design of the Memorial Grove by the architect, Augustus Alley in 1961 and its dedication by the Anglican Bishop of Newcastle in that year.
2. The interpretation should include an explanation of the establishment of the Memorial Grove and its continued use as a commemorative place.
3. The Interpretation should include a record of all plaques, names and the purpose of each memorial. This could be a record kept in the Newcastle Regional Library
4. The interpretation should include a record of all other memorials in the park, names and the purpose of each memorial. This could be a record kept in the Newcastle Regional Library.

¹⁰⁴ Entertainment Committee, Report of Town Clerk No 24 & *Laman Street Fig Trees Cooks Hill*, p.9.