

4. CAMPBELLTOWN'S ENVIRONMENT

4.1 OUR CULTURAL HERITAGE

4.1.1 OVERVIEW

Campbelltown City, as it is now known, was inhabited by Aboriginal people who spoke the Dharawal language. Their territory covered an area from Botany Bay south to the Shoalhaven River/Nowra and inland to Camden. The natural resources of the area provided the Dharawal people with their food and shelter. Knowledge of European arrival to the area would have been told by the Gwiyalgal people who lived along the southern shores of Botany Bay and via trade with other Aboriginal people. Escaped cattle from the colonial settlement were seen by the Dharawal people who documented these animals in a cave drawing. First sightings of white people would have occurred when they came looking for the cattle.

Campbelltown is one of the first areas of Australia established by Europeans. In 1810 Governor Macquarie recommended the area for settlement and named the district Airds. However, it was not until 1820 that Governor Macquarie founded the town of Campbell-Town. The town was envisaged as the capital of the greater districts, a centre for religion and overnight stop for travellers journeying by coach.

Large land grants (to free settlers) and small land grants (to emancipated convicts) were allocated in Campbelltown. These land grants were consolidated into holdings up until the 1820s and many have given their names to the suburbs of Campbelltown. Campbelltown has been a location for many activities that have led to the growth and development of the country. These include:

- agriculture and pastoralism
- explorers and important people
- education and research
- water supply and conservation
- communication

Campbelltown was a relatively small town providing regional services and facilities within a rural community up until the 1960s. In 1968, Campbelltown was proclaimed a City as part of a growth sector to help cater for Sydney's growing population and a structure plan was prepared in 1973 to guide the growth of Campbelltown. Rapid urban growth has characterised Campbelltown since planned urban development began. Importantly, Campbelltown is an urban area within a rural backdrop with many heritage items giving the area an identity and sense of place. The natural environment also contributes to the unique attributes of the area.

4.1.2 REGISTERED ITEMS AND PLACES OF CULTURAL AND NATURAL HERITAGE VALUE

REGISTER OF THE NATIONAL ESTATE

The Register of the National Estate is Australia's list of cultural and natural heritage places and is maintained by the Australian Heritage Commission. The list is national and includes historic places, natural areas and places of importance to indigenous people. There are approximately 12,000 places on the Register including Aboriginal, historic and natural items. In the Campbelltown LGA there are 68 items listed on the Register (Table.4.1).

THE HERITAGE COUNCIL OF NSW

The Heritage Council of NSW maintains a register of heritage items across the State via the State Heritage Inventory. Some items listed on the inventory are considered to be of State significance and are items on the State Heritage Register (previously known as State Heritage Orders) with appropriate curtilages. The NSW Heritage Office compiles the State Heritage Register and it can be accessed via the Internet. The inventory includes local heritage items as well as items of State significance. In Campbelltown LGA there are 22 items on the State Heritage Register.

Table 4.1 Heritage items registered in the Campbelltown LGA

REGISTER	YEAR	
	2000	2002
National Estate	30*	68
Heritage Council of NSW	16	22
National Trust	53	88
Campbelltown Heritage Register	16**	22**

* Value reported as "more than 30"

** Items owned by Campbelltown City Council on the register

THE NATIONAL TRUST OF AUSTRALIA (NSW)

The National Trust maintains a register of items classified as having national significance. Currently there are 88 items classified by the National Trust in the Campbelltown LGA.

CAMPBELLTOWN HERITAGE REGISTER

In 1994, Council completed a Heritage Study of the Built Environment. The Study's purpose was to update previous studies and it recommended a total of 96 items for inclusion on the Campbelltown Heritage Register. This Register includes items of national, state and local significance. Since 1994, Council has adopted a number of additional local heritage items including Ingleburn Weir, Ingleburn

Horse Trough, Ingleburn Army Camp and the four dams on Leumeah Creek. Council owns 22 items identified on the Heritage Register.

CULTURAL AND NATURAL LANDSCAPES

The Macarthur Heritage Study examined Aboriginal heritage, European heritage and cultural landscapes. In this broad-based study, 533 Aboriginal sites were identified in Macarthur. Further sites were identified in studies conducted as part of the Second Sydney Airport EIS (PPK 1997). The documents indicated that further detailed research was required to update information about cultural landscapes, areas of natural significance and Aboriginal importance.

Key Issue H1: A need to update information about cultural landscapes, areas of natural significance and Aboriginal importance

4.1.3 KEY MANAGEMENT ISSUES AND COUNCIL'S RESPONSE

"Conservation" means all the processes of looking after a place so as to retain its cultural significance (Article 1.4 - Icomos Charter for the Conservation of Cultural Significance - the Burra Charter)."

Issues affecting heritage items (or places of significance) in Campbelltown include:

1. Urban consolidation and subdivision
2. Planning policies on the urban fringe and the cost and demand for residential land
3. The identification of compatible uses for heritage items
4. Security, maintenance and vandalism including maintenance and allocation of resources for Council-owned heritage items
5. Dealing with development adjacent to heritage items - sympathetic and appropriate curtilages
6. Costs associated with conserving heritage items
7. Effective and appropriate management of heritage items.

CONSERVING ABORIGINAL HERITAGE

Council has completed an Aboriginal Heritage Study for the Campbelltown area. This study was commissioned in response to growing concerns about the absence of a document to guide indigenous cultural heritage impact assessment during the development and assessment process, and the lack of information available to guide conservation/management efforts.

The study was undertaken in consultation with local Aboriginal communities through Council's Aboriginal Heritage Study Steering Committee and Aboriginal Advisory Sub Committee. The study will ensure the needs and concerns of the local



communities are taken into consideration when identifying areas of Aboriginal importance and when developing conservation strategies.

The study was completed in November 2002. Upon adoption, it will enable Council, in consultation with local Aboriginal Communities, to put in place better planning and management mechanisms for Aboriginal heritage protection in Campbelltown.

During preparation of the study, members of the Steering Committee identified the need for an oral history of Aboriginal culture to be captured as a high priority. Subject to agreement from the Aboriginal communities, a strategy to deal with this issue will be developed by Council with the local Aboriginal Community in 2003.

Key Issue H2: As a matter of high priority, the need to capture an oral history of Aboriginal culture.

Key Issue H3: Aboriginal Heritage issues need to be considered more extensively in the development assessment process



CAMPBELLTOWN HERITAGE PROTECTION SUB-COMMITTEE

Council has, since 1996, continued to make decisions on heritage matters in Campbelltown with the advice of Council's Heritage Protection Sub-Committee. The Sub-Committee meets bi-monthly and provides comment and advice on building/development applications and proposed works by Council. The Sub-Committee also organised the annual Heritage Forum and Heritage Week activities.

Heritage Week 2002 activities included the annual heritage bus tour, an exhibition at Richmond Villa, an open day at Ingleburn Army Camp Historic Precinct and a Heritage Forum. Dr Robert Close received the 2002 Heritage Medallion.

HERITAGE FUND

Council has established a Heritage Fund to provide assistance to owners of heritage items in residential areas which are not being used for commercial purposes, where Council approval is required for building works. The fund allows for concession in the cost of a Development Application and Council contribution towards the cost of preparing a Conservation Management Plan.

HURLEY PARK RESERVOIR AND CATTLE TANKS

The historic water supply reservoir, silt traps and cattle tank are located in Hurley Park, off Allman Street at Campbelltown. The structures have suffered deterioration from vandalism and the natural elements. Council is applying for a grant from the NSW Heritage Office for conservation and repair works to the items, and to update the Conservation Management Plan.

Key Issue H4: Options for management and conservation of Hurley Park Reservoir and Cattle Tanks need to be examined.

NATURAL HERITAGE CONSERVATION WORKS - HISTORIC INGLEBURN RESERVE TRACK

Ingleburn Weir, which was constructed in 1939, is located on the Georges River and is listed as a local heritage item. During 2001 and 2002 track restoration works were undertaken to improve public safety and to reduce the impact of soil erosion on the Georges River. A team of local volunteers used sandstone rather than timber to construct the necessary steps in order to maintain the track's heritage and aesthetic value. The track itself descends into the gorge of the River through shale - sandstone transition forest to a picturesque swimming hole that is very popular during the summer months.

NATURAL HERITAGE ADVISOR

In recognition of its need to improve local knowledge regarding areas of natural significance, Council engaged a Natural Heritage Advisor on a part time basis using funds obtained from the NSW Heritage Office. This has enabled Council to develop a more thorough understanding of significant natural areas and how they can be suitably managed when incorporated into appropriate Plans of Management. Consideration has also been given to ways in which areas of cultural and natural significance can be linked using parks, pedestrian cycle and walkways and community meeting places.

Key Issue H5: Areas of natural and cultural significance need to be linked.

BUILT HERITAGE RESTORATION WORKS

Council commits significant resources to the maintenance and upkeep of its built heritage items. During the 2001/02 financial year major restoration works were continued at Glenalvon historic homestead, while Dredges Cottage received minor renovations, maintenance works and an extension of out buildings. Some minor maintenance works were also conducted at the Ingleburn School of Arts.

SIGNIFICANT TREE REGISTER

Council has maintained a register of significant trees in the LGA since 1982 and at present there are 51 items registered. The register is regularly reviewed and nominations for the inclusion of suitable trees are encouraged at any time. Nominations for the inclusion of a tree into the register need to be accompanied by a statement as to why the tree is significant. A tree may be included in the register if Council considers the tree to be significant due to its historic, cultural, social, aesthetic, and endemic or habitat value.

TWENTIETH CENTURY HERITAGE

Council is currently investigating a number of sites for inclusion as heritage items under the Campbelltown Local Environmental Plan (LEP) 2002. Many of these sites and items relate to the history of Campbelltown in more recent times. A number of pre-war, inter-war and post-war buildings and sites have been identified as being of potential heritage significance. The Ingleburn Military Historic Precinct will provide a tangible link with the significant military presence in the Ingleburn area between the outbreak of World War II and the late 1990s. The protection of the natural, aesthetic, ecological and cultural heritage of Campbelltown will be an important issue in Council's future planning strategies and will have a significant impact on the consolidated LEP, which will be prepared in 2003.



IMPACTS OF VANDALISM AND/OR INAPPROPRIATE DEVELOPMENT ON CULTURAL HERITAGE SITES

At present Council does not have any specific register to record the impacts of vandalism or inappropriate development on heritage items, however individual cases may be recorded if they are reported to Council. A register will be developed during the next reporting period in conjunction with the continued provision of appropriate development advice to help ensure the preservation of identified sites.

Key Issue H6: There is no central record of incidents of vandalism and inappropriate development relating to heritage items.

4.1.4 CONCLUSION

Council's commitment to cultural heritage protection has resulted in a higher level of scrutiny of development proposals that could potentially affect items or places of cultural significance, and the introduction of more stringent controls under the Campbelltown LEP 2002. The aim now is to design parks, pedestrian cycle and walkways and community meeting places in a way that links our heritage items and places, and enables greater opportunities for the community to enjoy them. There is also a need to capture an oral history from Aboriginal elders as well as those of European origin so that this information can be used as a basis for understanding the past as well as to plan the future.

4.1.5 KEY HERITAGE MANAGEMENT ISSUES IN RELATION TO COUNCIL'S CORPORATE OBJECTIVES AND STRATEGIES

There are three corporate objectives and seven strategies relevant to heritage management (Table 4.2)

Table 4. 2 Corporate objectives, strategies and key issues relevant to heritage management

RELEVANT CORPORATE OBJECTIVE IN MANAGEMENT PLAN		RELEVANT CORPORATE STRATEGY IN MANAGEMENT PLAN		KEY ISSUE 2003	STATUS*	RELEVANT OPERATIONAL MANAGEMENT DOCUMENT
1.2	To ensure equitable access for all members of the community to facilities and services.	1.2.4	Develop further the cooperative process between Council and the Aboriginal community in Campbelltown.	H3	IP	Social Plan
1.5	To encourage and promote the development of quality cultural and educational services and activities.	1.5.1	Provide and make accessible quality resources, services and programs that meet the information, educational, and cultural needs of the community.	NA**	Ongoing	Social Plan
		1.5.2	Encourage initiatives that develop the educational and vocational skills of the community.	NA**	Ongoing	Social Plan
		1.5.4	Facilitate the development and funding of cultural facilities and activities.	H4	✓	Cultural Heritage Strategy
3.2	To identify and protect all natural, physical and cultural heritage sites in the City ensuring they are maintained for future generations.	3.2.1	Identify physical, natural and cultural items of significant heritage value.	H1	IP	Cultural Heritage Strategy
				H2	IP	Campbelltown LEP 2002
		3.2.2	Encourage the development of conservation programs that preserve, protect and enhance the City's natural and built environment.	H5	IP	Cultural Heritage Strategy
				H6	IP	Campbelltown LEP 2002
3.2.3	Develop and implement education and awareness programs for schools and the community.	NA**	IP	Cultural Heritage Strategy		

* IP = In progress,
 ✓ = Complete
 2003-4 = Target date for completion

** NA = Corporate objective/strategy currently addressed in Council's Operational Management Plans/Strategies