



# Guidelines for the Naming of Roads

## Road Names

In the naming and renaming of roads and streets the following guide lines should be observed.

## Uniqueness

- 1.1 Name duplication within a local government area should be avoided. If possible duplication of names in proximity to adjacent local government areas should also be avoided.
- 1.2 However, roads crossing council boundaries should have a single and unique name.

## Sources

- 2.1 Preferred sources for road names include:
  - Aboriginal names
  - local history
  - early explorers, pioneers, settlers and other eminent persons
  - war/casualty lists
  - thematic names such as flora, fauna or ships
- 2.2 Names should be appropriate to the physical, historical or cultural character of the area concerned.
- 2.3 The origin of each name should be clearly stated and subsequently recorded.
- 2.4 The local Aboriginal Land Council should be consulted when choosing Aboriginal names unless council already has an agreed list of appropriate names.

## Propriety

- 3.1 Names of living persons should not be used.
- 3.2 Names which are characterised as follows are to be avoided.

- Offensive or likely to give offence,
- Incongruous - out of place,
- Commercial or company

## Communication

- 4.1 Names should be reasonably easy to read, spell and pronounce in order to assist both service providers and the travelling public.
- 4.2 Unduly long names and names composed of two or more words should be avoided:
  - a given name should only be included with a family name where it is essential to identify an individual or where it is necessary to avoid ambiguity. The use of given names should generally be avoided.
  - whilst street and cul-de-sac names should have only one word it is recognised that some roads require a two word name because of their geographic relationship e.g. New England Highway.
  - roads with double destination names should be progressively renamed.

## Spelling

- 5.1 Where it is intended that a road have the same name as a place or feature with an approved geographical name, then particular care should be taken to ensure that the correct spelling is adopted.

Place names shown on NSW Department of Lands topographic maps are approved names unless specifically excepted in the map legend or in exceptional circumstances where the name has been changed subsequent to the publication of the map.

- 5.2 Where names have been changed or corrupted by long established local usage,

it is not usually advisable to attempt to restore the original form; that spelling which is sanctioned by general usage should be adopted.

- 5.3 Generally road names proposed or approved should not contain abbreviations e.g. the "Creek" in "Wallaby Creek Road" must not be abbreviated.

There is, however, one exception

- "ST" should always be used in place of "Saint"

## Form

- 6.1 The apostrophe mark ' must be omitted in the possessive case e.g. "Smith's Road" should be "Smiths Road".
- 6.2 It is further preferable to deter a possessive "S" unless the euphony becomes harsh e.g. "Smith Road".
- 6.3 The use of hyphens should be avoided.

## Road Type

Proposals for road names should include an appropriate road type suffix.

- Assistance to both the motoring and pedestrian public should be a big consideration in this choice.
- When a type suffix with a geometric or geographic connotation is chosen ensure that it generally reflects the form of the road, e.g:
  - Crescent - a crescent or half moon, rejoining the road from which it starts;
  - Esplanade - open, level and often along the seaside or a river.
- For a cul-de-sac use Place, Close, Court or a type suffix of similar connotation.
- Road types specifically associated with the NSW main road network are recognised but have not been listed.

The following list of suitable road type suffixes is included for convenience. The list has been

sourced from Australian Standards AS 1742.5 - 1986 and AS 4212 - 1994 with input from some councils. In most instances the connotations are clear but where necessary a definition can be checked in a dictionary.

Alley	Crescent	Promenade
Arcade	Drive	Quay
Avenue	Esplanade	Ridge
Boulevard	Fairway	Ridgeway
Bypass	Garden(s)	Road
Chase	Grove	Row
Circle	Lane	Square
Circlet	Mall	Street
Circuit	Mews	Terrace
Circus	Parade	Walk
Close	Parkway	Way
Court	Place	
Cove	Plaza	

## No Prefix or Additional Suffix

The use of a compass point prefix or an additional suffix such as "north" or "extension" should be avoided.

## Legislation

*The Roads Act 1993 - Section 162* - provides the authority for the naming of roads.

The Roads (General) Regulation 2000 (Government Gazette No 112) Part 2; Division 2 - Sets out the procedures to be observed when naming roads.

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