

## PARRAMATTA NORTH URBAN RENEWAL AND REZONING

Baseline Assessment of Social Significance of Cumberland East Precinct and Sports and Leisure Precinct and Interpretive Framework







Report prepared for

#### **UrbanGrowth NSW**

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[Issue 4, Final Draft 21 October 2014]

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**Figure 1 (Front Cover, clockwise from top left):** Female penitentiary or factory Paramatta [sic] by Augustus Earle, c 1826 Rex Nan Kivell Collection NK12/47NLA 281860; Female Factory [Gipps Yard and Cell block extension] c 1840s; Visit by Mrs May to Girl's Institution, Parramatta Sam Hood 1939 SLNSW NCY43/265; Women dining at the Parramatta Hospital for the Insane, c1888, Parramatta Local Studies Collection LSOP 162

# **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

UrbanGrowth NSW has identified areas of government-owned land in the Cumberland Precinct and the Sports and Leisure Precinct, adjacent to the Parramatta River and opposite Old Government House and the former Government Domain (Parramatta Park), as the Parramatta North Urban Renewal (PNUR) site with the view to its consolidation for urban renewal.

To facilitate urban renewal, UrbanGrowth NSW is preparing the necessary documentation to enable the site to be rezoned for a variety of mixed housing, community and cultural uses.

This baseline study investigates social values significant to the heritage sites with the PNUR land and provides a brief thematic history of the sites. It examines the over-arching social values of the two precincts within the PNUR site to assess their significance and presents recommendations for how the social significance can be managed through rezoning and redevelopment to facilitate community building, economic development and sustainable heritage tourism.

Guidelines for assessing social significance prepared by the Heritage Division, Office of Environment and Heritage have been used for social heritage assessment across both Precincts. However, detailed assessments, based on a wider review of academic sources and oral histories, will be required to inform specific redevelopments.

The two identified precincts which comprise the PNUR area are significant for their social values which contribute to the overall heritage significance of the site. The land is significant to Aboriginal people, as occupation and food-gathering ground, for its spiritual, social and cultural associations and for its ability to inform contemporary Aboriginal society. They both contain evidence and have the potential to reveal further information about Aboriginal occupation and early European settlement. The sites have the potential to reveal archaeological evidence of early colonial social organisation and lifestyle and the potential to inform, through archaeological research and investigation, historical study of early European settlement in Parramatta.

The Sports and Leisure Precinct has social significance to Parramatta and western Sydney for its association with the World Heritage listed Old Government House and Domain and for its association with organised professional, competitive and recreational sporting activities in western Sydney, since 1847.

The Cumberland Precinct has, since 1818, been associated with institutions committed to the welfare of disadvantaged and vulnerable people, especially women. It includes the former Female Factory, recognised for its exceptional social significance as one of Australia's oldest surviving convict sites and the first purpose-built multi-purpose facility for convict women. Together with the former Lunatic Asylum and Parramatta Gaol, this Precinct is

important for the information it reveals as a site of conscience, memory and healing to people whose lives have been affected by their intersection, through institutionalisation, with regimes of punishment, incarceration and reform.

Parramatta, the second oldest European settlement in Australia has been described as 'the cradle of our welfare system', Since 1788, its growth, development and identity have evolved from its tentative start as a government farm to become a unique cultural landscape with tangible evidence of changing government policies and community attitudes to moral and social reform, gender, sectarianism, humanitarianism, authority, discipline, punishment and the treatment of mental illness.

Specific sites within the PNUR proposal have been recognised for their heritage significance on the NSW State Heritage Register. They are sensitive sites with deep, complex and conflicting emotional and spiritual values. They contain tangible evidence in their heritage fabric, structures and spaces which in turn provoke conflicting emotional responses as intangible evidence. This intangible evidence has been identified by individuals and groups as significant in the process of understanding, accepting, sharing and embracing past history as a mechanism for gaining respect, dignity and identity in an environment of community acceptance and compassion.

#### **GAPS**

This study provides an overview of social significance for the Sports and Leisure Precinct. Further investigation will be required to inform specific proposals for redevelopment of sites within the PNUR area.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

#### **General recommendations**

#### Recommendation G1: Social values and identity

That the social values associated with the heritage significance of the precincts in the PNUR area be recognised as unique to the identity of the land proposed for urban renewal and as having significance to particular groups and communities;

## Recommendation G2: Social values and rezoning/redevelopment

That the social values which contribute to the significance of the PNUR area are respected and reflected in the rezoning process by ensuring future uses of the site are compatible with those social values and are not diminished by redevelopment associated with urban renewal;

#### **Recommendation G3: Further investigation**

That further processes (including research, investigation, consultation and oral history recording) which help to further reveal, expand and enhance our understanding of the tangible and intangible social values are implemented in the next phase of urban renewal for this site;

#### **Recommendation G4: Limits of tolerance**

That the limits of tolerance to loss, change and alteration which affect the understanding and protection of social values and which are embedded in the fabric of sites, structures and in open spaces across the PNUR area are identified in the process of urban renewal and appropriate mitigation strategies which support and facilitate outcomes of urban renewal are implemented;

### **Recommendation G5: Interpretation strategy**

That a strategy which guides the interpretation of the social values and significance of the PNUR area be undertaken to inform future redevelopment (including new infrastructure and the retention and/or renewal of heritage sites, structures and spaces); and that during the urban renewal process there are mechanisms for agencies and community groups to facilitate programs which enhance access to, appreciation of and understanding of, the social significance of the area during its redevelopment; and

#### **Recommendation G6:**

That the outcome of a site-wide interpretation strategy inform opportunities created by urban renewal will provide accessible, relevant and imaginative methods to convey intangible and tangible social values to a wide and diverse audience and contribute to the identity of the PNUR area as a driver and an exemplar for community building across in a sensitive heritage, business local and international heritage tourism.

#### **Specific recommendations**

# **Recommendations S1: Sports and Leisure Precinct**

Respect the social values of this land to Aboriginal people and recognise the significance of this site and is associations with Parramatta Park and World Heritage values.

Explore opportunities to add to our understanding of the importance of early European settlement and agriculture which can contribute to the heritage significance of Parramatta.

Retain the association of sporting interests in this Precinct in ways which enhance the public open space and access to facilities. Consider opportunities to review the amenity of the Parramatta War Memorial Swimming Pool in its current location.

#### Recommendations S2: Cumberland Precinct

#### **Female Factory**

Respect the exceptional social significance of this site in the context of Australian social history since 1818 and the retain remaining evidence of the first purpose-built institution for the welfare of convict women, including built heritage and spaces which interpret the administrative, living, working and punitive conditions; the hierarchical classification system, and associations with former individuals (e.g. the clock).

Retain, conserve and restore the buildings for a viable future use which respects the human and built scale of the buildings and is appropriate to the tangible and intangible social significance of the buildings.

Avoid intrusions, unsympathetic built forms and new uses which inhibit the ability of the site to interpret key social values.

## **Lunatic Asylum**

Respect the tangible and intangible evidence of buildings, structure, landscape features and settings (including buildings adapted and/or repurposed from the former Female Factory)which interpret the patient segregation, classifications and moral treatment philosophies of the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century. Retain, conserve and re-use items in ways which do not detract from their social significance and enhance their ability to interpret it. Avoid intrusions which detract from the human scale and open character of the setting.

Retain features associated with communal activities for staff and patients including the Amusement Hall, cricket ground and shelter shed for community use.

Protect evidence of patient labour in landscape features, including the ha ha, roads, kerbs, fountains and plantings.

Retain and conserve the work of Arnold St Clair.

#### **Norma Parker Centre**

Respect the sanctity of this site for its tangible and intangible values and its significance to former residents and retain its intactness. Retain, conserve and restore the former Roman Orphanage buildings and Bethel House as a site which

acknowledges the members of the Stolen Generation, Forgotten Australians and victims of child abuse and its recognition as an international Site of Conscience.

## **Parramatta Gaol**

Consider new uses which retain and conserve significant features relating to the management and classification of prisoners and which interpret the social values of the place.

#### 1.0 INTRODUCTION

This section identifies the Parramatta North Urban Renewal (PNUR) area, its precincts and context, provides background information on the area, describes existing land uses and summarises the planning and development proposal.

# 1.1 Background

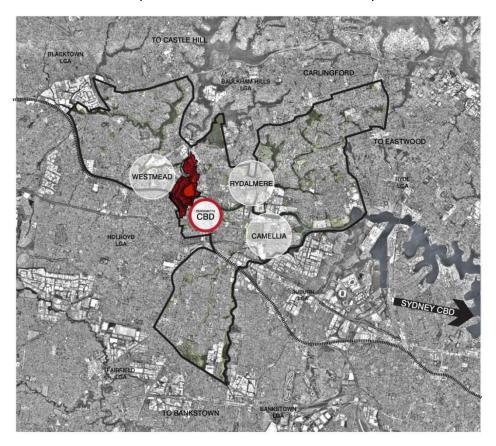
Parramatta is located in the geographical heart of Sydney and plays a significant role in the Greater Metropolitan Area as Sydney's second CBD and the most important centre in Western Sydney. The Parramatta North Urban Renewal (PNUR) area is located to the west and north-west of the Parramatta CBD and just east of the Westmead Health campus, from which it is separated by the Parramatta River. The PNUR area is also close to the Rydalmere Education Precinct and transport links.

UrbanGrowth NSW has commissioned a number of reports to inform a State Significant Site study (the Study) of the Sports and Leisure Precinct and the Cumberland Precinct within the PNUR area and to identify how best to plan for the urban renewal of these two precincts. The Study is investigating potential amendments to the statutory planning controls applying to these precincts. **MUSE***cape* Pty Ltd has been engaged by UrbanGrowth NSW to prepare a report which assesses the social significance of the two precincts relating to the proposed amendment to the planning framework applying to the Study area.

The PNUR area includes many locational and site specific attributes, including frontage to the Parramatta River and a rich history of Aboriginal, early colonial, 19th, 20<sup>th</sup> and 21st century uses. The potential exists to deliver housing and employment opportunities in the precincts that will embrace and interpret these heritage attributes to make them a focus of the urban environment that will emerge through future development and facilitate their retention and re-use. The renewal of the area provides exceptional opportunities to facilitate the retention, conservation and the re-use of significant heritage buildings, structures and their landscape settings.

# 1.2 Location and description

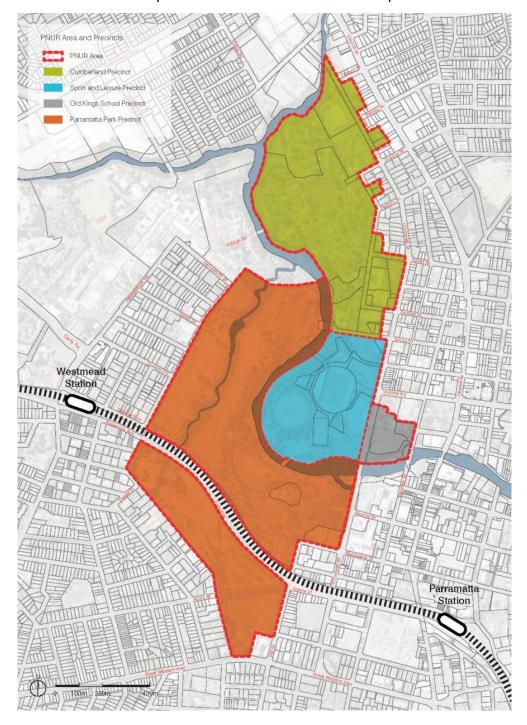
The location of the PNUR area is shown in Figure 2 below.



**Figure 2** Location of the PNUR area in the context of Sydney's west, with the Sports and leisure Precinct and Cumberland Precinct shaded bright red. (Source: AJ + C)

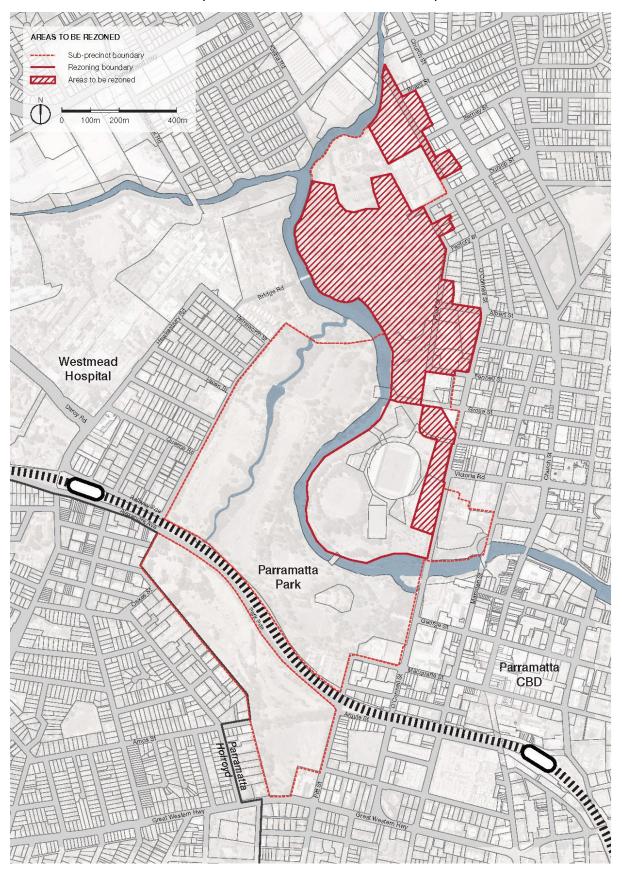
The total PNUR area comprises 146 hectares, divided into four distinct precincts listed below and shown in Figure 3.

- The Cumberland Precinct (40 ha)
- Sports and Leisure Precinct (21 ha)
- Old Kings School Precinct (4 ha), and
- Parramatta Park Precinct (81 ha).



**Figure 3** The four PNUR precincts, edged red, with the Cumberland Precinct shaded light green, the Sports and Leisure Precinct shaded blue, Old Kings School Precinct shaded grey and Parramatta Park Precinct shaded orange. (Source: AJ + C)

The Study relates only to the Cumberland and Sports and Leisure precincts within the PNUR area. Lot 2 and the Parramatta Gaol site are not proposed for rezoning at this stage but are included in the review of previous studies.



**Figure 4** Map showing the areas of the Sports and Leisure Precinct and the Cumberland Precinct proposed for rezoning hatched red. (Source: AJ + C)

The Sports and Leisure Precinct (SLP) is located centrally within the PNUR area and is bounded on the west and south by a meander of the Parramatta River, on the east by O'Connell Street and by Grose Street on the north.

The Cumberland Precinct (CP) is the northern-most part of the PNUR area and is broadly delineated by the meander of the Parramatta River to the west and north, O'Connell Street to the east and Grose Street to the south.

Combined, the two precincts comprise those parts of the PNUR area to the east of the Parramatta River and west of O'Connell Street. The lands to the west of the Parramatta River contain Parramatta Park, including Old Government House and Domain.

## 1.3 Existing Land uses

Land uses and facilities currently located within the SLP include Pirtek (Parramatta) Stadium and associated facilities, Parramatta Swimming Centre, Parramatta Leagues Club, open space parkland and venue car parking. These built facilities and associated structures predominantly occupy the north-eastern two thirds of the precinct. The balance of the precinct, nestled inside the meander of the Parramatta River, is mostly landscaped open space with some incursion of at-grade car parking. This southern part of the precinct includes part of Parramatta Park including the site of Old Government Farm.

Land uses within the Cumberland Precinct include the Cumberland Hospital, the NSW Linen Service, allied health related uses and NGOs and the decommissioned Parramatta Gaol. The precinct contains buildings of State and local heritage significance as well as known and potential non-Aboriginal archaeological sites and potential Aboriginal archaeological sites. Buildings are dispersed through the precinct which is serviced by an irregular access network and broadly surrounding a central oval. These clusters of buildings are interspersed with ornamental plantings and are framed by an almost continuous band of vegetation along the eastern bank of the Parramatta River.

## 1.4 Surrounding areas

The PNUR study area is located to the immediate west and north-west of the Parramatta CBD. The north-eastern area of the CBD is emerging as a mixed use residential precinct with residential tower forms.

To the immediate east of the Study area, uses include educational uses, residential accommodation in forms ranging from single dwellings to three storey residential flat buildings, interspersed with non-residential uses of former dwellings. Further east a spine of retail and commercial uses is located along Church Street and Victoria Road.

To the north-east of the site, generally along O'Connell Street, building forms are typically three storey residential flat buildings, with commercial and retail land uses in the areas to the east of the former Parramatta Gaol. To the north of the Cumberland Precinct on the

Parramatta North Urban Renewal and Rezoning: Baseline Assessment of Social Significance of Cumberland Precinct and Sports and Leisure Precinct and Interpretive Framework opposite bank of the Parramatta River is the Northmead industrial area which includes large format industrial buildings.

To the north west of the Cumberland Precinct is a small pocket of single storey cottages bound by further industrial development to the west and three storey residential flat buildings fronting Briens Road, Northmead. To the west of the Cumberland Precinct, beyond Parramatta Park, is the Westmead medical precinct which is adjoined by a residential area bound generally by Hawkesbury Road, Hainsworth Street, Park Avenue and Railway Parade. Development in this area is predominantly three storey residential flat building forms interspersed with taller, higher density residential flat buildings. This residential pocket of land is separated from the lands which are the subject of this Study by Parramatta Park.

## 1.5 The Proposal

The Parramatta North Urban Renewal (PNUR) area provides opportunities to protect and enhance heritage significant sites, and deliver housing, cultural uses and employment on the edge of the Parramatta CBD. The area is also exceptionally well located in close proximity to the Westmead Health and Rydalmere Education specialised precincts, as well as existing and planned transport. The location at the edge of the Parramatta CBD also places the area at the western extent of the Global Economic Corridor and Parramatta Road Corridor.

These locational advantages, in concert with the proximity to the Western Sydney Employment Area, underline the strategic merits of the urban renewal of the area. PNUR includes many locational and site specific attributes, including frontage to the Parramatta River and a rich history of Aboriginal, early colonial, nineteenth and twentieth century uses. The potential exists to deliver housing and employment opportunities in a precinct that will embrace and interpret these heritage attributes to make them a focus of the urban environment that will emerge through future development.

The amendments to the statutory planning provisions applying to the PNUR area are anticipated to be undertaken via a State Environmental Planning Policy (SEPP) to amend the provisions of Parramatta City Centre Local Environmental Plan (LEP) 2007 and Parramatta LEP 2011. Site specific Development Control Plan (DCP) provisions are also proposed to be prepared to guide future development. Amendment of the planning framework will facilitate the lodgement of future Development Applications with Parramatta City Council to be assessed and determined under the provisions of Part 4 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*.

The Study has been undertaken to prepare an appropriate suite of planning controls to guide the urban renewal of the area and future development. This has led to an Indicative Layout Plan (ILP) guiding future open space, transport links and building footprints, as well as zoning and height of building controls, which are to be implemented in conjunction with site specific Development Control Plan provisions to guide the fine grain development of the

area. The recommended suite of planning controls has had regard to the site's heritage, environmental values and physical constraints and recognises the locational advantages of the PNUR to the Parramatta CBD, the Westmead Health Precinct, the Rydalmere Education Precinct, and transport options.

The ILP envisages the creation of a mixed use area within the Cumberland Precinct that accommodates new development for housing, employment, cultural and community uses in new buildings and through the sympathetic adaptation of retained heritage buildings. For the Sports and Leisure Precinct, the ILP envisages the strengthening of the current role of the area as a major sports venue and the introduction of allied retail and commercial uses to support the role of Parramatta Stadium as a major sport and entertainment venue for Parramatta and greater western Sydney. The Sports and Leisure Precinct may also accommodate ancillary retail use to support the resident and employee population to be accommodated in the PNUR.

# 1.6 Anticipated Development Yields

The study proposes amendments to the planning framework, including revisions to the development controls, that will facilitate a mixed use residential redevelopment of the study area. The proposed amended planning framework will facilitate the lodgement of future development applications for the land in the study area which are anticipated to achieve the following development yields:

#### **Cumberland Precinct**

- Approximately 4,100 dwellings
- Approximately 28,000 m<sup>2</sup> GFA of adaptive reuse of retained heritage buildings
- Up to 4,000 m<sup>2</sup> GFA of retail space

#### **Sports and Leisure Precinct**

• Approximately 34,000 m<sup>2</sup> GFA of mixed-use (likely to be predominantly commercial)

# 2.0 BASELINE STUDY OF SOCIAL SIGNIFICANCE

## 2.1 Scope of Social Significance Assessment

**MUSE***cape* Pty Ltd was contracted by UrbanGrowth NSW in July 2014 to assess the social significance of the Sports and Leisure Precinct and the Cumberland Precinct within the PNUR area identified for rezoning. This study addresses the social significance of the sites identified within the government-owned land designated for urban renewal by UrbanGrowth NSW. It includes a summary thematic history of the site and recommendations for interpretation.

The two precincts which have been identified for rezoning include the Sports and Leisure Precinct and Cumberland Precinct. Both Precincts are cultural landscapes with significant heritage values for their tangible and intangible associations with particular social groups. They are likely to reveal archaeological significance as yet uncovered. They adjoin Parramatta Park and Old Government House (SHR item 00596) which is recognised for its State, National and World Heritage significance. These Precincts contain buildings of State and local significance listed on the NSW State Heritage Register which identifies them as worthy of conservation into the future and significant in the cultural landscape of New South Wales. The State Heritage Register listings include three items in the Cumberland Precinct.

- Parramatta Correctional Centre (SHR item 00812)
- Cumberland District Hospital group (SHR item 00820)
- Norma Parker Correctional Centre (SHR 00811)

The Parramatta Local Environmental Plan 2011 identifies the following items as State significance:

- Parramatta Girls' Training School (Norma Parker Correctional Centre) (1A and C Fleet Street, North Parramatta (LEP item 100811)
- Parramatta Correctional Centre 73/73A O'Connell Street, North Parramatta (LEP item 100820)
- Cumberland District Hospital 5A Fleet Street, North Parramatta (LEP item 100820)

In addition to those State significant items, Parramatta Local Environment Plan 2011 recognises 7 landscape elements of local significance and these have been investigated for their social values. These are

Stone kerb and gutter, Albert Street (west arm), North Parramatta (LEP 1329), Stone fence, Fleet and Albert Streets (east side—between 2B Fennell Street (Fleet Street face) and 4 Fleet Street), North Parramatta (LEP 1358); Heritage brick drain 1A, 1C and 5A Fleet Street, 1 Fennell Street and 73A O'Connell Street (LEP 1360); Stone kerbing and tree planting, Fleet Street (both sides), North Parramatta (LEP 1362).

The Parramatta War Memorial Swimming Centre is identified on the register of War Memorials in NSW.

#### 2.2 **Definition of Terms**

For the purposes of this report, the following terminology is used.

Australia ICOMOS Burra Charter 2013 contains principles and guidelines for determining social significance. <sup>1</sup> Social significance of cultural heritage represents the meanings attached to buildings and objects which are important to people and social groups and communities. Social value is measured through research, investigation and consultation to identify the way people express their connection with a place and the meaning that place has for them. Places of social cultural value have associations with contemporary community identity which is built on their historic values.

A heritage item is considered to have **social significance** if an item has particular associations with the community. 'An item has strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group in NSW for social, cultural group in NSW for social, cultural or spiritual at State or local level'.<sup>2</sup>

**Tangible heritage** is embodied in physical evidence such as extant structures and archaeological evidence which heritage sites can reveal. **Intangible cultural heritage** is embodied within the heritage fabric as the cultural and social expression of the people associated with those places. It can be identified through language, names, expressions, feeling, memories and ways of speaking. It is defined by UNESCO as follows:

'Intangible cultural heritage means the practices, representations, expressions, knowledge, skills – as well as the instruments, objects, artefacts and cultural spaces associated therewith – that communities, groups and in some cases, individuals recognise as part of their cultural heritage. This intangible heritage, transmitted from generation is constantly recreated by communities and groups in response to their environment, their interaction with nature and their history and provides them with a sense of identity and continuity, thus promoting respect for cultural diversity.'<sup>3</sup>

The Heritage Division, NSW Office of Environment and Heritage considers **interpretation** as the means by which the significance of an item is conveyed in the public domain. Interpretation means all the ways of presenting the significance of an item. Interpretation may be a combination of the treatment and fabric of the item; the use of the item; the use of interpretive media, such as events, activities, signs and publications, or activities, but is not limited to these.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Australia ICOMOS Burra Charter 2013

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Assessing Heritage Significance published by the Heritage Division, NSW Office of Environment and Heritage, 2001

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> UNESCO Convention for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup>http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/resources/heritagebranch/heritage/NSWHeritageOfficeGuidelinesinfointerpreting.pdf

# 2.3 Methodology and consultation

This study was prepared relying on existing information provided to the consultant and consultation with members of the project team engaged to document the heritage significance of the PNUR site. This team comprised Dr Jillian Comber, Director, Comber Consultants Pty Ltd (regarding Aboriginal archaeology); Dr Mary Casey, Director, Casey and Lowe Pty Ltd (regarding European archaeology) Megan Jones, Associate Director and Sean Williams, Senior Heritage Specialist of TKDA Architects Pty Ltd (regarding items of European built heritage) and Christopher Betteridge, Director, **MUSE**cape Pty Ltd (regarding the European cultural landscape assessment and peer review of this report).

The PNUR area includes sensitive social landscapes which evoke strong and conflicting emotional responses. To further investigate how the buildings, structures, spaces and the activities associated with them have impacted on individuals and groups, consultation and site visits with representatives of some of those groups were conducted. The social significance of particular aspects of the site was investigated through consultation with Bonney Djuric representing the Parramatta Female Factory Precinct Memory Project and Dr Terry Smith, historian and former employee of Cumberland Hospital. The author acknowledges the valuable assistance in understanding the complexity of social values provided through these consultations.

Dr Smith also generously provided access to his extensive collection of published and unpublished material, including his extensive archive of documentary evidence relating to Cumberland Hospital. Bonney Djuric also provided access to published and unpublished material relating to the 'Parra girls' and their experiences during their time at Parramatta Girls Home. Their on-going research and documentation is a valuable resource for the future interpretation of the social significance of the site. Further research of the social history of the PNUR area by specialist interest groups which adds to our understanding of social values is encouraged.

Further investigation was conducted through a review of feedback documentation collected by Elton Consulting and through consultation with stakeholders during attendance at 3 public charrettes and an informal stakeholder discussion organised by UrbanGrowth NSW in July-August 2014. The author also attended a meeting with Parramatta City Council's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Committee in August 2014.

# 2.4 Previous Heritage Reports

The following reports were consulted during the preparation of this study:

- Conservation Management Plan, North Parramatta Government Sites, Heritage Group, Department of Public Works, May 2000.
- North Parramatta Government Sites (North): Archaeological Assessment Report, Heritage Design Services (no. 00011 HG Report; no 99/42), NSW Department of Public Works and Services, Sydney, 2000.

- Conservation plan for Cumberland Hospital heritage precinct, Perumal Murphy Wu Pty Ltd, 1992.
- Norma Parker Centre, Kamballa, Parramatta, formerly the Roman Catholic Orphans School and the Girls Industrial School, Parramatta: conservation plan, Heritage Group, State Projects, DPWS, 1997.
- The Early History of Cumberland Hospital, an Overview, being a compilation from various sources, Terry Smith, May 1991.
- Baseline Archaeological Assessment and Statement of Heritage Impact Cumberland
   East Precinct and Sports & Leisure Precinct Archaeological Monitoring, Cumberland
   Hospital, North Parramatta, Casey & Lowe for Endeavour Energy, March 2014.
- Parramatta Correctional Centre, its past development and future care, [Conservation Management Plan] J. S. Kerr for Department of Correctional Services, 1995
- Conservation Management Plan & Archaeological Management Plan, Cumberland Hospital East Campus & Wisteria Gardens, for Asset Management, Perumal Murphy Allessi 2010 for Sydney West Area Health Service.

#### 2.5 Limitations

This study was commissioned to investigate social values and significance. It was not required to address other heritage significance values. The study presents an overview assessment only and recognises that further work is required to more fully understand individual social values of heritage items in a wider context. It is also noted that the sites have both contemporary social values and other heritage values for the community and that because of the nature of the activities with which the sites are associated, these values are sometimes conflicting. Further research is required to fully understand the potential of these sites to reveal and interpret social significance.

# 2.6 Images and Abbreviations

Images which help to identify and reinforce individual and group associations with time, place and people across the sites have been included in this report. The sources of images used in this study report have been identified and wherever possible, acknowledged. All reasonable effort has been made to trace the sources of images. For the purposes of this study, they have been reproduced at low resolution and are not intended for commercial publication.

JOL, SQL	John Oxley Library, State Library of Queensland
SLNSW	State Library of NSW (ML) Mitchell Library; GPO (Government Printing Office)
NMA)	National Museum of Australia
NLA	National Library of Australia NLA
DoCS	Department of Corrective Services, NSW Government
DoE	Department of Education, NSW Government
SHR	State Heritage Register, NSW Government, Heritage and Environment

#### 3.0 HISTORICAL OVERVIEW

#### 3.1 Introduction

History and heritage define all cultures. Heritage practice provides the tools which unlock information and identify the capacity of sites to reveal those meanings and memories which have social significance to the community. The following overview identifies key phases in the development of the PNUR area to establish the historical sequence of occupation and changing uses.

# 3.2 Traditional Aboriginal land

The Sports and Leisure Precinct and the Cumberland Precinct defined within the PNUR boundary is the traditional land of Aboriginal people whose occupation can be traced back more than 20,000 years. Both precincts are located on an ancient natural estuarine and woodland landscape which supported abundant wildlife and edible plants and in the area where the freshwater people, the Burramattagal clan and the saltwater Wangal clan met. The naming of Parramatta, derived from the words for the place (*burra*) where the eels (*matta*) lie-by Governor Arthur Phillip referenced a feature of local Aboriginal significance

Evidence of Aboriginal occupation, identified in remnant artefact scatters, scarred trees and indigenous vegetation have been found on the western side of the Parramatta River opposite the PNUR area. It confirms that this area has significance to Aboriginal people as a living landscape defined by plants, animals, seasons, spiritual associations; and as a place of gathering which connects Aboriginal people today to their ancestors and makes it possible for them to transfer their stories, language, ceremonies, rituals and laws to contemporary generations across the broader Aboriginal community.

## 3.3 Sports and Leisure Precinct

The Sports and Leisure Precinct is bounded to the west and south by the Parramatta River, O'Connell Street to the east and the Cumberland Hospital East Precinct to the north. It incorporates Parramatta Park land, including the Old Kings Oval. The Precinct also includes excisions to the public land granted as parkland in 1858, namely Cumberland Oval (and Pirtek Stadium), the Parramatta Swimming Centre, Parramatta Leagues Club and car parks associated with these facilities.

# 3.3.1 Government Farm, Government Domain and Parramatta Park

The European history of the Sports and Leisure Precinct began in November 1788 with the exploration of the Parramatta River by Governor Arthur Phillip and his party, including marines, who were searching for land suitable for agriculture in an attempt to save the colony from starvation. On the western side of the river, on a small rise, they established a military redoubt on a site they named Rose Hill for a small detachment which was to protect the settlement of commissioned officers and convicts from attacks by Aboriginal people.

The fertile soils on the river terraces offered better potential for farming than sites around Sydney Cove and by February 1789, land was being cleared and under cultivation. Huts had replaced the convict tents, a military barrack had been built and across the river from the redoubt, Edward Dodd, the Farm's supervisor had constructed a dwelling and barns and granaries. Using convict labour to clear the land and toil the fields, the Farm was able to produce good harvests of wheat, barley, oats and maize.

The Government Farm is considered to be the colony's first successful agricultural enterprise and it generated the expansion of settlement which would eventually lead to the establishment of Parramatta as a township. The outcome of this success however was that, as land was appropriated for European settlement, Aboriginal people were denied their connections to the land and despite attempts at reconciliation, particularly by Governor Macquarie, Aboriginal people suffered the consequences of intervention and dispossession.

From 1788 to 1857, Parramatta was a centre of administration of the penal colony and a vice-regal residence was home to the first 10 governors of NSW. Old Government House, enlarged and enhanced by Governor Macquarie and his wife, Elizabeth, included land on both sides of the river which provided a picturesque setting for the residence. In 1858, bowing to public agitation for public access to the open space, this government domain was gazetted as public parkland for the 'health and recreation of the inhabitants of Parramatta'<sup>5</sup>.

A decade earlier, Governor Fitzroy had given land on the eastern side of the river on which Edward Dodd had farmed for the establishment of a racecourse, thereby creating the start of a long history of sporting associations on this site which continue today. It also marked the start of excisions for leaseholds for sectional interests (including licensed clubs and sporting interests) which have continued to shrink the Park's boundaries well into the late 20<sup>th</sup> century.

#### 3.3.2 Cumberland Oval and Old Kings Oval

#### Racing

In 1847 the Cumberland Turf Club was granted approval to construct a racecourse for the sport of horse-racing on land formerly used as the Government Farm. This was the first excision of land from the Government Domain for public use. It was a large site, extending from the River in the west to what is now O'Connell Street in the east and it was here that the Cumberland Turf Club operated until 1858. The 'Mud Lodge Races' <sup>6</sup> were held here from 1858 to1883 after which time western Sydney horse racing relocated to the newly constructed Rosehill Racecourse, completed in 1885. The former Mud Gate Lodge was replaced in 1935 by the Ross Street Gatehouse.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Parramatta Domain Act, 1857

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Mud Lodge was the name of a cottage occupied by a constable within Parramatta Park. The recourse could be accessed via the Mud Lodge Gate.

#### Cricket

Although the sport of cricket had been introduced to Parramatta as early as 1839, it was not until 1862 that the Parramatta Cricket Club secured a home ground when its president, Dr George Pringle was given approval to build a cricket oval within the race track in Parramatta Park. The fenced pitch and field were prepared by its members in advance of their first match against Liverpool in 1863. During the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, significant matches were played against English cricketers of the calibre of W C Grace in English and international touring teams on this field. As a founding member of the NSW Cricket Association Grade competition in 1893-4, Parramatta Cricket Club has played an important role for over a century in promoting cricket in western Sydney, producing 3 international, 12 Australian and 44 state cricketers (including Richie Benaud and Doug Walters).

The former racecourse was subsequently divided into three sporting ovals - Cumberland Oval, an oval for The Kings School and a smaller one further to the north-east with new tree-lined entrances from O'Connell Street. In the 1970s, the Old Kings School became the home ground for the renamed Parramatta District Cricket Club, which is acknowledged as NSW's oldest cricket club and the third oldest in Australia. The Club continues to play grade cricket on this site (which remains within the boundary of Parramatta Park) today. A grandstand built on the Oval in 1994 was named the Doug Walters Stand.

#### **Motor sport**

In February 1930, Cumberland Oval Speedway opened for motor cycle racing with an irregular oval-shaped track which was widened when motor car racing was introduced in the 1940s. The centre of the Oval continued to be used for team sports. The late Sir Jack Brabham was an early competitor, debuting his motor-cycle-engined midget racing car there in 1948 and winning his third motor race at the start of his career. A former Parramatta High School student remembered Brabham driving around the speedway that circled Cumberland Oval while he played school cricket match. <sup>8</sup> A number of solo and sidecar speed car track records were set at the Cumberland Oval, where three drivers sadly lost their lives. Motor sports at Cumberland Oval ceased in 1959, and are recalled by older residents as a source of complaint to Council for the late-night noise they generated, particularly from the loudspeaker commentaries.

#### Football

Football is central to the history of Cumberland Oval, beginning with rugby union matches in 1879 and as the home ground of the Parramatta Two Blues team during the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Local club rugby league matches have been held at Cumberland Oval since circa 1910 and in 1947, it became the home ground of the Parramatta District Rugby League Club when it was admitted into the NSWRL Premiership. Their first match against Newtown was enjoyed by 6,000 fans – by 1971, spectators at premiership matches had increased to over 20,000. The

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> The Parramatta Cricket Club as known as Central Cumberland Cricket Club between 1894 and 1982

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> http://www.parramatta-h.schools.nsw.edu.au/documents/31068011/31075365/Fifth%20Decade.pdf

premiership title eluded the Parramatta Eels for 26 years until 1981 when the team secured their first-ever premiership against Newtown and in their enthusiasm for celebration after the match ended, supporters burnt the oval's grandstand to the ground.

"Cumberland Oval 1983 is one of the saddest sights in Rugby League. It is barely recognisable from the days when Sydney's most vocal fans packed the brown slopes, the splintered seats and the old grandstand that literally shook to the roar of PARRA! (stomp, stomp, stomp)...PARRA! (stomp, stomp). Now it is little more than an empty shell - grandstand gone, grass overrun; fences stripped; the scoreboard is just a charred ruin and the remaining framework of the press box, its warped metal ladder the curse of every visiting pressman, looking even less inviting. The gravel mound on the western side in front of what was once the stand is still there. That ugly mass of bitumen holds some memories too. Fifteen years earlier I stood on the same spot and watched the great Dick Thornett coolly pot a field goal from near touch on halfway. It was a Wednesday and we'd wagged school to watch Parramatta's postponed match against Penrith."

A new stadium was built on the same site and opened by Queen Elizabeth II in March 1986 and despite rebranding and the change from oval to rectangular in shape, the ground is still referred to by many as Cumberland Oval.

Legendary players have included Mick Cronin, Peter Stirling, and Steve Ella. Cumberland Oval is hallowed ground to players and supporters of the Parramatta Eels and more recently, for the Western Sydney Wanderers and Greater Western Sydney Australian Football Leagues Club. It also was used as the home ground between 1992 and 1999 by the Sydney Blues (later Sydney Storm).and has hosted major international sporting events including the 2008 Rugby League World Cup.

Cumberland Oval is no stranger to public controversy. In 1981 when the NSW State Parliament passed the Cumberland Oval Bill and the Government announced plans to build a 40,000 seat stadium, the National Trust of Australia (NSW) and the Friends of Parramatta Park organised public protests to complain against the construction of a large Americanstyle stadium and the excision of public land for sectional interests. The stadium proposal also greatly invoked the ire of the Aboriginal community.

With a seating capacity of 22,000, Parramatta Stadium, now managed by Venues NSW as a commercial venue, has hosted many non-sporting and cultural events including Michael Jackson's concert during his Bad World Tour in November 1987, the final Australian concert

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Neil Cadigan, Rugby League Week, 11 August 1983 at <a href="http://parramatta-eels-discussion.2296745.n4.nabble.com/The-decaying-shell-that-was-Cumberland-td3756707.html">http://parramatta-eels-discussion.2296745.n4.nabble.com/The-decaying-shell-that-was-Cumberland-td3756707.html</a> accessed on 30 August 2014

of Paul McCartney's 'The New World Tour' in March 1993, the Maronite 08 event during World Youth Day and the annual community Carols by Candlelight. 10

The Parramatta Leagues Club building, which adjoins the Sports and Leisure Precinct to the north, houses memorabilia associated with the Parramatta Eels and is the social hub for its members and Eels supporters. The Club itself had been established as Parramatta District Rugby League Club in the 1930s by Colonel Jack Argent and a clubhouse erected on the O'Connell Street site to help inject much needed capital to support Parramatta rugby league team development. The building was constructed by Argent's building company in 1959 and has been affectionately known by the community as 'the house that Jack built'. Since then, the Parramatta Leagues Club has established itself as a hub of social and community activity with a membership today of over 40,000. The Club has a high profile in the community and provides \$6.4 million annually to local community and sporting associations, including sponsorship of local junior rugby league programs. It is a major sponsor of Northcott Disability Services and a popular venue for social and cultural activities.

#### 3.3.3 Parramatta War Memorial Swimming Centre

Since 1959, Parramatta War Memorial Swimming Centre has functioned as a community swimming centre for competitive and instructional sport, recreation and a place for individuals, schools, special interest groups and family groups to gather and participate in swimming activities. Its construction was prompted by a number of factors including the expanding residential development of western Sydney; the increased interest in swimming following the success of Australian swimmers at the 1956 Melbourne Olympic Games and a growing appreciation that it was the responsibility of local government to provide such an amenity as a necessary community facility.

Before the advent of formal swimming facilities in Parramatta, early residents swam unprotected in the Parramatta River until the construction of the Centennial Baths next to Lennox Bridge. It was here that Dick Cavill introduced the overarm freestyle swimming stroke popularly referred to as the 'Australian crawl' in the 1890s. However, by the 1930s, the Baths had fallen into disrepair and closed. An alternative to swimming in Parramatta River (particularly at Little Coogee) and Lake Parramatta came with the completion of a new' Olympic' pool at Granville in 1936.

In 1954, Parramatta Council approved a proposal for the erection of a new pool in Parramatta. A suitable site was identified just west of the King's School, bounded by O'Connell Street and Cumberland Oval and the community was encouraged to offset the cost by donating funds. Local architects Figgs, Cowell, Ham and Jefferson were engaged to design the pool and its ancillary facilities and the tender for construction was awarded to Crystal Pools.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Pirtek Stadium (Cumberland Oval) and Parramatta Leagues Club, adjacent to Pirtek Stadium, are not included in the rezoning proposal.

The first stage of Parramatta War Memorial Swimming Centre, completed at a cost of £140,000, was opened on Saturday 24 October 1959 before a crowd of 5,000 people. Intended to be one of the major swim centres in the Sydney area, it was built as a useful and living memorial to honour soldiers who sacrificed their lives in World War II. It also coincided with the prevailing civic philosophy of encouraging healthy sporting pursuits which could be enjoyed across a wide cross section of the community.

The opening ceremony, which included the dedication of a plaque unveiled by Mayor, Alderman Eric Mobbs, included a swimwear fashion parade featuring 'mermaids in nylon', organised by local department store, Murray Brothers and compered by popular radio personality, Terry Dear. A highlight of the proceedings was a demonstration swim by local and recent Olympian and Commonwealth Games gold medallist, John Devitt, a former Parramatta Marist High School student, along with other successful swimmers including Ilsa and John Konrads.

The pool was built by Crystal Pools (established 1957) for Parramatta Council using reinforced concrete and the latest water-proofing and filtration technology. The cost was offset with donations from the community. H C De Lowe and O'Keefe who surveyed the site donated their fee to Council. Then managing director of the Ford Motor Company in Australia, Canadian-born Charles Smith, who competed against Australian Olympic swimmer, the late Sir Frank Beaurepaire, donated £100. Additional funds were raised when two Holden cars were auctioned through an Art Union established specifically for pool fundraising and tax deductible donations were offered as war memorial gifts.

In 1960, 2 smaller pools for learners and waders were completed and officially opened by John Devitt who had now added further Olympic glory to his name at the Rome Olympic Games.

The popularity of the new pool was evident when, in 1961, Parramatta Council reported a slump in attendances at its Granville pool. Patrons, preferring the sparkling new facility at Parramatta, rose in numbers from 299,893 in 1959/60 to 315,562 the following year.

Further expansion continued with a new entry foyer and administration block added in 1962 and a diving pool and tower completed in 1966. However, proposed features including a cafeteria and restaurant, war memorial clock tower and enclosed pool were never realised. A car park was created in 1972. In 1987 a water slide was added and extensive repairs and maintenance undertaken in 1998/9 before the pool closed for a major upgrade in 2007.

On 25 September 2008, the Parramatta War Memorial Swimming Centre was re-opened by the Lord Mayor of Parramatta, Councillor Paul Barber, following a \$9.5 million refurbishment by the original construction company, Crystal Pools. The renovated aquatic centre now comprises 3 pools including a 10-lane, 50 metre swimming pool, a diving tower, and children's swimming facilities. Users include local swim clubs, school carnivals, Learn to

Swim classes and locals enjoying social recreation, particularly during the sweltering summer season. Parramatta Swimming Centre is one of a declining number of outdoor Council-operated swimming pools as many are de-commissioned and their sites sold for redevelopment; or rebuilt in enclosed multi-sport facilities. Annual attendance is currently 250,000, with an additional 1,900 attending swim school programs.

The Centre is recognised on the NSW Register of War Memorials, a joint venture between the NSW Government and the Returned Services League (RSL) to record the war memorials across NSW.

#### 3.4 Cumberland Precinct

The Cumberland Precinct is broadly delineated by the meander of the Parramatta River to the west and north, O'Connell Street to the east and Grose Street to the south. It is associated with institutional development, commencing with the Female Factory (1818-1848); the Parramatta Lunatic Asylum (1848-1878); Parramatta Hospital for the Insane (1878-1960); Parramatta Psychiatric Centre (1960-1983) and Cumberland Hospital (1983 to present). As Cumberland Hospital, it is the second oldest institution providing 'on site' inpatient mental health service in NSW, although today the hospital campus has its major profile on the western side of the Parramatta River. The Precinct is also adjacent to Parramatta Goal (1842-2011) which, until its closure, was the oldest gaol in original use in Australia.

Cumberland Hospital had its genesis in the Lunatic Asylum in buildings reassigned from the former Female Factory to the south of the SHR area. Some of the original buildings were repurposed using materials from former buildings (e.g. Ward 1) and new buildings, structures and facilities added over time as the Asylum expanded. The expansion pushed development north of the former Female Factory and new additions to the site during the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century respected the philosophies of moral treatment and the importance of a designed landscape and setting for the expanding mental health facility. The design and siting of buildings added from the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century respond to more recent practices and functionality in the treatment and management of people diagnosed with mental illness. As a site, its buildings, structures and spaces reflect an evolving institution which has responded to changing methods and processes for delivering mental health services to the people the hospital system is designed to cater for.

### 3.4.1 Early history

The early European history of the site is associated with the Reverend Samuel Marsden who was superintendent of public works at Parramatta. One of his projects, a water mill at Parramatta, was initiated by Governor John Hunter in 1799 and prompted by the failure of attempts at mechanised flour milling. The site selected was on the eastern bank of the Parramatta River (near the Norma Parker Centre), where flat river stones formed a natural weir and causeway to dam water and tidal changes in the river might provide sufficient power to drive a water mill.

Work commenced in 1799 with Marsden relinquishing his role in 1803 when the design of the mill and its workmanship was found to be unsatisfactory. Marsden acquired farm land previously owned by Charles Smith through which the water mill race ran, taking water to the mill pond. He subsequently built his own private mill further north along the river for his Mill Dam Farm. Poor management and structural problems with the earthen dam and race walls eventually contributed to the demise of the government's mill which was sold and removed in 1820.

Marsden provided his daughter with Vineyard Farm, part of his landholding, on which a house was erected around the time of her marriage in 1830. She inherited it on her father's death in 1838 but sold it to Gregory Blaxland in 1842. In 1866, it was acquired by the government as part of the Lunatic Asylum. The Betts' house became the residence for the Medical Superintendent. It remained as a residence after a new house (*Glengariff*) was built for the Medical Superintendent on the western side of the river, but was demolished in the 1940s.

## 3.4.2 Female Factory (1818-1848)

The former Female Factory is located between Fleet Street, Parramatta and the Parramatta River in the southern portion of the Cumberland Precinct. It has its origins in the welfare reforms for female convicts championed by Governor Lachlan Macquarie and was the first purpose-built colonial establishment designed to provide accommodation, training and employment for unassigned convict women. Designed by Francis Greenway, it was completed in 1821 as a complex of sandstone buildings enclosed within high perimeter walls, providing accommodation originally for 300 convict women, a figure which rose to over 1,200 women and 263 children in 1842. It is estimated that 5,000 of the approximately 24,960 convict women transported to the colony spent time in the Factory – and that around 1 in every 5 Australians is likely to be related to one of the women. Originally one of 12 such factories for the convict women in the colony, the Female Factory was the first purpose-built colonial establishment specifically for that purpose.

The Georgian- style Female Factory was built from stone quarried in nearby Fleet Street. A 3-storey dormitory block was located in the central space, with additional buildings to the front and rear including a Matron's residence, a hospital and workshops. The concept was modelled on the English workhouse and aimed to train women with skills which they could use on release to improve their lifestyle and earn a living. Initially, the women were grouped into different classes which influenced the work they undertook and the segregated conditions under which they lived. The General Class comprised aged, married and young women; who, on good behaviour could progress to Merit Class where they could earn their own money and then after 12 they could be assigned or allowed to marry. Repeat offenders were categorised as Crime Class. In 1826, Governor Darling instituted an inquiry into the Female Factory, resulting in a change to the class system. New-comers and the destitute were classified as First Class, pregnant and nursing mothers as Second Class and a transition

Parramatta North Urban Renewal and Rezoning: Baseline Assessment of Social Significance of Cumberland Precinct and Sports and Leisure Precinct and Interpretive Framework stage between First and Third Class which was reserved for repeat offenders, who were subjected to hard labour.

At the Factory, women were engaged in a range of tasks including spinning and weaving flax and wool ('Parramatta cloth'), bleaching cloth, oakum<sup>11</sup> picking, laundry, sewing, cleaning and rock-breaking. A three-class merit system applied to the classification of women and The Factory also provided medical services for invalid and aged women and women giving birth.

A penitentiary wing was added subsequently to house women who had been convicted by the colonial courts (following the closure of the Moreton Bay penal settlement) and later in 1838, a three-storey cell block containing 72 cells was built to the south of the original complex. For two years, until solitary confinement was abolished, women were incarcerated in darkness and fed on bread and water for up to 21 days.

Conditions in the Female Factory were tough, evidenced by frequent riotous behaviour, disorderly conduct and criminal behaviour. The *Sydney Gazette* reported a revolt in October 1827 over food substitution which resulted in the physical damage to the gates of the Factory and the escape of a number of women.

Religious tensions simmered between Protestants and Catholic women, the latter a substantial majority. In 1838, five Irish Sisters of Charity arrived to conduct missionary work and began a long association with the site which continued through to the establishment of the Roman Catholic Orphanage in 1842.

The Reverend Samuel Marsden, despite having a role in its management, blamed the Female Factory for the prevailing culture of depravity and immorality in Parramatta and female convicts, considered to be the 'refuse of the convict system', and their activities as' destructive of all religion, morality and good order'.

# 3.4.3 Asylum for Invalid and Lunatic Convicts (1848-1849); Lunatic Asylum Parramatta (1849-1878)

Following the cessation of convict transportation in 1840, the Female Factory was briefly reassigned as a benevolent asylum for pauper invalid and lunatic convicts and, from 1849, it became a public asylum for incurable lunatics of both sexes and destitute former convicts to relieve the overcrowding at Tarban Creek Asylum (Gladesville), which retained the most acute patients.

The arrival of Dr Richard Greenup as Medical Superintendent in 1852 brought a humanitarian approach to the care of patients and the treatment of staff. Although a classification system was applied to different categories of patients and males and females were segregated, not all were subjected to restraint or seclusion. Separate accommodation

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Oakum is tarred fibre used for caulking ships and sealing ropes. Picking off the oakum to recycle it was a common industry in prisons and workhouses in 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries.

was allocated for quiet, imbecile, epileptic, refractory, violent and dangerous patients. As work was considered the best form of therapy, patients were expected to work during the day and tended to menial tasks such as cleaning, undertook sewing and laundry or assisted with building, road-making and the maintenance of grounds. By 1855, after some additional construction of dormitories, cells, yards and facilities, the Asylum accommodated 187 males and 92 females. Following the passing of the *Criminal Lunatics Act* in 1861, criminally insane patients transferred from goals were housed in a purpose-built ward, which by virtue of its associations was condemned for demolition a century later.

By the time of Dr Greenup's untimely death at the hands of a deranged patient in 1866, the Asylum had been granted land on the western side of the Parramatta River for a hospital farm and that year, the former Blaxland land was added to the site. The temporary weatherboard buildings, designed as a stop-gap measure to cope with increasing numbers of male patients date from the 1870s (a female weatherboard ward was built in 1877). To improve patient safety, steam boilers to heat water replaced open fires in the buildings and gas lighting replaced kerosene lamps.

#### 3.4.4 Parramatta Hospital for the Insane (1878-1960)

Following the appointment of Dr Frederick Norton Manning as the first Inspector General of the Insane in NSW in January 1878 and the introduction of the *Lunacy Act* 1878, major improvements were made at the renamed Parramatta Hospital for the Insane. a rebuilding program was initiated which created a well-defined segregation between male and female patients and improved kitchen and laundry facilities. A large sports oval and cricket ground was created in 1879 with an open shelter pavilion added the following year to encourage healthy participation in physical activities. This amenity, along with the bowling green in front of Ward 1, became important social venues for activities between patients and staff and visiting teams from other institutions.

With landscaped park-like grounds, an aviary, fountains, terraced riverbanks, formal gardens and new buildings, some re-using the stone from earlier structures, the Asylum environment was considerably enhanced. The 'Ha Ha' kept patients within the grounds, but afforded views of the landscape and a sense of freedom. Windows although barred, were given decorative wrought iron treatment, rather than prison-like bars. In 1883, the main Female Factory barrack building was demolished and replaced using the same stone with a purposebuilt ward (Ward 1, now housing the Institute of Psychiatry). The solitary cells in the Gipps cell range were demolished as unsuitable for the needs of patients. A ward was built for dangerous non-criminal patients in 1889-90.

Almost 50% of the patients were employed on site and facilities for recreation were provided in an Amusement Hall, which also doubled as a chapel. Routine was central to the sense of daily order which prevailed and the clock in the tower of Ward 1 (a gift to the colony from King George IV in 1822) and the large bell outside Ward 1 played a special part in defining the allocation of time for meals, work, recreation and sleep. Rising admissions

continued to place additional strains on facilities, necessitating the use of the former Female Orphan School at Rydalmere as an annexe until its gazettal as a separate institution in 1892. Dr Manning ensured that conditions for staff too were fairly addressed with training and better facilities, although his opposition to improving their rates of pay and leave entitlements were unpopular.

During the late 19<sup>th</sup> century and early 20<sup>th</sup> century, medical superintendent, Dr William Cotter Williamson presided over further changes to the Hospital, using patient labour to improve the landscaped grounds. The talents of Government Architect, Walter Liberty Vernon were employed in the design of attractive buildings including a superintendent's residence, *Glengarrif* (renamed Wisteria House in 1994) across the river, replacing the old Betts House located then in the middle of the ward complex. An article in *Australian Town and Country Journal* in 1895 described the grounds 'closely shaved lawns, flower beds bright with colour, walls covered with ivy...and in some cases gorgeous-tinted ivy and show that [they are]amongst other curative and palliative measures used. Fountains and statuary made by patients decorated the grounds, one described as having been constructed by an attendant from clinkers from the steam boiler furnaces. In the Laundry, patients washed and ironed dirty linen from 1100 patients (who were bathed once a week) using enormous tumbling washing machines and steam rollers.

In workshops, patients were supervised in painting and blacksmithing. They made all the picture frames for the paintings hung throughout the Asylum and the horsehair and coconut fibre pillows for patients. Across the river, patients tended to a farm growing fruit and vegetables and raising pigs and cows. This provided food for the Asylum where their healthy diet included baked beef and mutton on alternate days and cold corn beef on Sundays with plum pudding three times a week.

Patients played games such as bagatelle, cards, chequers, billiards and had access to books and papers. The writer noted that there were no padded cells and troublesome patients were locked into solitary cells at night. The male and female dormitory wards, with 30 beds each (50 in the weatherboard wards), covered with snow white linen and mosquito nets, were hung with high quality coloured and steel engravings.

The Amusement Hall, which could seat 700 people, was cheerfully decorated and hung with pictures. A pedal organ was located at the church end where Roman Catholic Church services were held on Sundays and a piano at the other end where fortnightly dances and musical concerts were held to entertain patients. Popular too were cricket matches for the Asylum's cricket club and visiting teams enjoyed other sports including lawn bowls and tennis.

In the 1920s, the Asylum had an in-patient population of 1,252, which made it the second largest mental hospital in New South Wales. 8.6% of Parramatta's population were patients in the Hospital. As one of the largest institutions in the Parramatta area, the Hospital

provided economic opportunities and employment for the local population. Not only did many of the staff live close by, in an area known as 'Pleasant Hills', but children (as adults) often followed their parents in work at the Asylum. With the assistance of staff, patients enjoyed opportunities to enjoy life on the outside of the institution with excursions, picnics and trips to the shops and movies, while some of their labour contributed to enhancing the public domain, as evidenced by the rustic rubble stone walls along Fleet Street which were built by patient labour between 1929 and 1932. The annual springtime Wisteria Fete, organised by the staff of the Hospital, has welcomed the public into the grounds and generated funds to support medical and social programs at the Hospital since 1930. Many items sold at the Fete were made by patients as part of their occupational therapy and included leatherwork, needlework, basketry and toy-making — helping the Hospital to provide amenities such as a hospital bus and a swimming pool.

#### 3.4.5 Parramatta Psychiatric Centre (1960-1983)

Parramatta Mental Hospital, later renamed Parramatta Psychiatric Centre, consistently kept up with medical advances in mental health treatment, introducing medical intervention and psychiatric therapies – some in line with corresponding institutions, although mechanical restraints continued to be used until the late 1960s. An on-site training school opened in 1964 and innovative programs introduced using the creative arts to inspire creativity and assist patients in their rehabilitation. In 1972, a patient being treated for alcoholism, artist Arnold St Clair (Sinclair) completed a mural around the walls of Ward 8 and has been identified as an important piece of work.

During the 1960s-the Centre provided clinical training for medical students and expanded its admission units for approximately 200 acutely ill in-patients with problems including psychoses, depression, neurotic disorders and provided specialised services for geriatric patients and those suffering from drug and alcohol dependency. During the 1970s, in line with government policies on patient rehabilitation and re-integration into the community, on-site patient numbers began to decline and buildings were adapted for an increasing number of out-patient services and psychotherapeutic activities.

#### 3.4.6 Cumberland Hospital (1983 to present)

Further reforms recommended by the Richmond Report (1983) and the Barclay Report (1988) saw the upgrade and consolidation of Cumberland Hospital's services and facilities during the 1990s and the relocation of the majority of those to the western side of the river. As a consequence, many of the historic buildings and areas were surplus to the requirements of the Hospital. Bowing to community pressure to save the heritage buildings on the largely vacated site, former hospital buildings on the eastern campus were adapted for ancillary services associated with mental health care within the western Sydney region.

#### 3.4.7 Roman Catholic Orphan School (1842-1886)

The first female orphan school was established in Sydney in 1802 but faced with an increasing number of children needing care, Governor Macquarie made land available at

Rydalmere for the construction of the Female Orphan School which opened in 1812. Sectarian principles applied, causing the Catholic community to agitate for the establishment of an orphanage for Catholic children with the consequence that a Roman Catholic orphan school was established next to the Female Factory and opened in 1844. A 3-storey Georgian Palladian-style building was built to house 150 children and was enclosed on three sides with a high sandstone wall. In 1859 the Sisters of the Good Shepherd (later known as Good Samaritans) took over the management of the orphanage, replacing Sisters of Charity who had been paid by the government. Additional land was granted from Parramatta Park for subsequent alterations and extensions which significantly enlarged the complex. Bethel House, built in 1862-3 as an infirmary of four wards, each having its own shower, bath and lavatory, was considered to be a model of its type at the time. By 1874 the orphanage housed 267 children, but had failed to keep pace with the increasing number of admissions.

Reforms ensuing from the 1874 Public Charities Commission, the introduction of the *State Children Relief Act* in 1881 and the introduction of foster care led to the closure of the Roman Catholic Orphan School in 1886.

# 3.4.8 Industrial School for Girls, including Parramatta Girls Training Home, (later Parramatta Girls Home) (1887-1974)

The Parramatta Girls Industrial School (1887-1912) was established in the old Roman Catholic Orphan School buildings by the Department of Public Instruction and opened on 9 May 1887. Its precursor had been the Newcastle Girls Industrial School which was later transferred to Cockatoo Island as the Biloela Girls Industrial School in 1871. It was intended to care for neglected, abandoned, destitute and orphaned girls, those who were vulnerable or uncontrollable and those convicted of a criminal offence. It accommodated around 160 to 200 girls up to the age of 18 at a time, with younger boys up to the age of 7, most of whom had been charged with crimes or committed for welfare reasons. It served as a children's shelter, reformatory and training school. It must be remembered that many of these children were either unable to look after themselves, were leading a troubled life or, through no fault of their own, were placed into care.

By 1912 the Parramatta Girls Industrial School moved to the control of the State Children's Relief Board and the Parramatta Girls Training Home was established in the former Bethel House. (1912-46) It is estimated that up to 30,000 girls, children as young as 18 months years of age and boys 7 years old or younger passed through this institution at Parramatta between 1887 and 1975. On average, 90% of girls were committed on the offence or complaint of 'neglect', or 'exposed to moral danger'. Routinely examined by a doctor, the girls were classified and segregated (theoretically at least) as either 'corrupt' or 'not corrupt'. In 1926, 50% of girls were found to be suffering from a venereal disease, prompting the creation of a special clinic at 'Bethel" which became a model for diagnosis

Parramatta North Urban Renewal and Rezoning: Baseline Assessment of Social Significance of Cumberland Precinct and Sports and Leisure Precinct and Interpretive Framework and treatment, using protocols developed by international authority Dr Keith Macarthur-Brown.

Institutional authority was built on a culture of fear and submission and the girls were subjected to draconian conditions, punishments and personal degradation. It is little wonder that there were frequent riots which challenged the authority of staff and destroyed furniture and fittings. In an attempt to combat anti-social behaviour, further punishment and relocation of offenders to more secure accommodation were introduced.

Conditions at Parramatta were often the topic of heated debate in the NSW Parliament in response to the many riots that occurred there. On arrival at Parramatta Girls Home, the girls would be strip searched and issued with a uniform. There was no privacy – no place for storing keepsakes, no doors on toilets and showers, all mail was censored. Girls worked to maintain the institution rather than receive an education, and punishment was brutal – scrubbing concrete floors until knees bled, isolation in dungeons, a diet of bread and water.

Emphasis within the institution was placed on reforming girls through menial work and domestic duties. Schooling was only available to a maximum of 15 girls at any given time. The majority of girls had been either sexually, physically or emotionally abused and came from diverse socio-economic backgrounds. Many girls had spent their entire childhood in 'care', either in foster homes or institutions, and on average between 9% and 15% of the institution's population were Aboriginal, including members of the Stolen Generation. Many of them were sent to the Hay Institution for Girls which opened as a maximum security annexe to house rebellious and difficult girls aged between 15 and 18. In the 1960s the institution was the focus of a 10 year campaign lead by feminist activist Bessie Guthrie who sought improved social justice and human rights for the girls.

3.4.9 Norma Parker Centre (1980-1993) incorporating Kamballa (1979-1993) and Taldree (1974-1980) Norma Parker Correctional Centre (1993-1997) Norma Parker Periodic Detention (to 2010) Community pressure to reform the State's welfare system through the exposure of negative outcomes of institutional regimes was ultimately instrumental in forcing the closure of the Parramatta Girls Home in 1974. That year, Taldree was established for 60 young male offenders in new buildings built on the Parramatta Girls Home site. In 1979, the original orphanage buildings were proclaimed a prison and renamed Kamballa (an Aboriginal word meaning young woman) to accommodate 40 minimum security young female offenders, catering for the needs of girls who could not adapt to other reformatory institutions. Programs which addressed education, skill training and social contact were introduced. Renovations and the addition of a swimming pool were designed to improve the living conditions for the occupants.

Renamed the Norma Parker Centre in 1980, its concept was to provide a better model for integrated remand and assessment facilities on a regional basis as an outcome of recommendations by Tony Vinson, then Chair of the Corrective Services Commission. It was

named after the late Norma Parker CBE (1906-2004) who is considered as one of the founders of social work in Australia. As part of her research to reform the Child Welfare Department during the 1950s-60s, she lived at the Parramatta Girls' Home to compile first-hand evidence. The introduction of periodic detention followed developments in strategies to divert people from the prison system using alternative sentencing options such as periodic (2-day stay) detention, work-release and correctional programs, community service and probation. Thirty percent of inmates participated in credit-based work-release and weekend leave programs while women not meeting the criteria for this privilege were employed in the Centre's Cortex industry. The last offenders were transferred to Emu Plains Periodic Detention Centre in 2008 and the buildings used by the Department of Youth and Community Services until 2009. The 1850s western range was badly damaged by fire in 2012 and is currently vacant and under partial restoration.

## 3.5 Parramatta Gaol

Built in 1842, Parramatta Gaol (renamed Parramatta Correctional Centre in 1992) was, until its closure in 2011, the oldest surviving gaol in use in Australia. Its built form adopted contemporary penal philosophy and design and was based on a prisoner classification system. This saw the physical separation of different categories of male and female prisoners who were assigned to radial wings, enclosed within a substantial walled enclosure) and monitored by surveillance from a central point. It replaced two earlier gaols on another site, built respectively in 1796 and 1804, and was constructed initially to a design of Mortimer Lewis but completed to a modified design by engineer Captain George Barney. The 'Public Gaol, Prison and House of Correction' as it was known, was constructed from stone quarried from a source on the road to Windsor and built by builders James Houison and Nathaniel Payten on land then on the outskirts of the town of Parramatta.

When it opened in 1842, the Gaol was incomplete and barely habitable, necessitating subsequent improvements, enlargement and additions. Over time, these saw additional yards, cell bock wings, a gaoler's residence, cookhouse and a chapel added, with more contemporary additions in the 20<sup>th</sup> century including workshops and an auditorium.

A significant outcome of the 1861 inquiry into the state and management of public prisons in Sydney was a much-needed improvement in the facilities at Parramatta Gaol and the introduction of a merit system of advancement for prisoners. There were few reported disturbances at Parramatta Gaol and swift action quelled the only documented riot in 1882. By 1897, Parramatta was the second largest gaol in the colony, with 364 men and eight women inmates. Further improvements were made around this time, including the conversion of double cells to single, the installation of electricity, the replacement of circulatory walking exercise with yard-based physical drill routines and off site residences for gaol managers. These works reflected a period of administrative reform of the prison system under the direction of the comptroller general of prisons, Frederick Neitenstein.

In addition to the incarceration of criminals and the criminally insane, Parramatta Gaol also accepted detained prisoners who were unfit for penal discipline. The prison population also included Aboriginal people who were disaffected by discriminatory legislation. Later, with a decline in population following World War I, Parramatta Gaol was closed between 1918 and 1922 and used briefly, but unsuccessfully, as a mental health facility.

During the 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century, male prisoners in Parramatta Gaol were engaged in stone cutting for the construction of prison structures, with male and female prisoners producing clothing and for a time, cabbage tree hats. As the prison population grew, so too did the opportunities to train them for other meaningful work for, as habitual criminals and recidivists serving long sentences, they were often there for long periods of time. By the 1930s, it had become the State's main manufacturing gaol, producing boots, coir mats, brushes, tinware, clothes, joinery and foodstuffs from the prison's vegetable farm and piggery. During World War II, much of the work was devoted to manufacturing military clothing, camouflage nets and reconditioning military equipment. Prison labour was also used on the adjacent site of Cumberland Hospital for gardening and road-making and repair.

It is generally regarded that Parramatta Gaol reached its aesthetic and operational climax in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, but by the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century, the architectural integrity of the gaol was compromised by a series of unsympathetic additions erected in an attempt to improve conditions. The large structure built in 1976 on the former vegetable gardens site to house the prison's commercial laundry operation (now operated by the NSW Department of Health) and the large auditorium were functionally significant additions, but were no architectural improvement to the site. In the 1990s, reception, administration and visitors' buildings were designed to better match the original sandstone structure.

Further prison reforms influenced more improvements to the gaol's facilities and to the treatment of prisoners during the late 20<sup>th</sup> century. Despite briefly closing in 1997, the Parramatta Correctional Centre operated as a medium-security, short-term remand centre, and periodic detention centre, housing un-sentenced and sentenced male inmates and male periodic detainees until its closure in 2011.

Some of its notorious inmates are figures in recent history, including bank robber and prison escape artist, Darcy Dugan, organised crime figure, George Freedman, murderer Kevin Gallagher, rapist and murderer Lenny Lawson and notorious criminal Arthur 'Neddy' Smith. It has featured in Australian movies and television productions including The Convict, Underbelly, Rake, Home and Away and Redfern Now.

Parramatta Gaol is currently the subject of a land claim by the Deerrubbin Local Aboriginal Land Council.

#### 4.0 WELFARE IN THE PUBLIC SPOTLIGHT

#### 4.1 Changing attitudes

Parramatta has been described as the 'cradle of our welfare system'. <sup>12</sup> and since 1821, its identity and cultural landscape have been shaped by the institutions, organisations and people which have been established there.

Writing in *The Jubilee History of Parramatta* in 1911, T D Little, Secretary of The District Hospital, Parramatta identified The Industrial School for Girls, The Asylums for the Destitute, (located in George and Macquarie Streets), The Cottage Homes (for impoverished couples for whom the barrack-style accommodation in the Asylums was unsuitable) The Hospital for the Insane (and later the Presbyterian Church's Burnside Homes) at Parramatta. He noted that on one hand the existence of the institutions might be viewed as a misfortune to the town, while on the other, it provided a constant source of revenue and economic benefit to Parramatta. <sup>13</sup>.

However, throughout the late 19<sup>th</sup> century and first two decades of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, there were continuing and frequent complaints in the press and to Parliament about the social pressures associated with housing people in these institutions. The first, for the Female Factory by Commissioner J T Bigge in 1819 was critical of the way it was being set up and suggested ways in which the accommodation could be reorganised and work opportunities expanded for the women.

The litany of complaints about unsatisfactory conditions, overcrowding in the State's mental institutions, the problem of accommodating the criminally insane, criticisms of the effectiveness of the *Lunacy Act*, problems with the care and treatment of patients and staffing issues wouldn't go away. Numerous inquiries investigated conditions and sought to make recommendations for improvements. An extensive inquiry in 1923, for instance, found that the hospital for the criminally insane at Parramatta should be condemned as unfit for human habitation; and that the Industrial School for Girls at Parramatta be transferred to the Department of Mental Hospitals.

The Stoller Report (1954) determined that the Commonwealth Government would match state funding for renovation programs to upgrade accommodation, but it was not until findings of The Trethowan Report 1957 that the *Lunacy Act 1898* was finally overhauled by the *Mental Health Act 1958*. The Inquiry into Health Services for the Psychiatrically III and Developmentally Disabled (Richmond Report) 1983 brought sweeping changes to the care of the mentally ill and developmentally disabled <sup>14</sup>, with a focus on moving patients out of full-

<sup>12</sup> http://newsroom.uts.edu.au/news/2013/04/behind-the-walls

 $<sup>^{13}</sup>$  T D Little and R S Stewart Richardson. The Jubilee History of Parramatta. .Cumberland Argus, Parramatta NSW 1911

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> Summary of Recommendations from the Inquiry into Health Services for the Psychiatrically III and Developmentally Disabled (Richmond Report) 1983

Parramatta North Urban Renewal and Rezoning: Baseline Assessment of Social Significance of Cumberland Precinct and Sports and Leisure Precinct and Interpretive Framework time hospital care into the community networks and relying on networks, linked to

specialist hospitals, to case manage patients.

The Richmond Report was followed by the Ministerial Implementation Committee on Mental Health and Developmental Disability (known as the Barclay Report) in 1988. It recommended the mainstreaming of services to balance in-hospital treatment with community care which took the spotlight away from institutional care and diminished the availability of in-patient services for many people who still remained vulnerable and disadvantaged.

Prisons too have been the subject of reform, notably following the Nagle Report in 1978, which was scathing in its criticism of the treatment of prisoners and their conditions in the State's gaols and prompted an overhaul to a system which had changed little since the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

#### 4.2 Site of Conscience

Throughout the long history of the institutions within Cumberland Precinct, policies and practices associated with the care and treatment of vulnerable and disadvantaged people have been under the spotlight. Some of those have been exposed by the rebellions, riots and protests organised by the people affected by the outcomes of those policies and practices. Others have been exposed through formal investigations and inquiries conducted by governments who have considered the opportunities and constraints associated with the management and welfare of people entrusted to their care. Many of those past practices and policies are no longer acceptable to contemporary society and governments and institutions have been and continue to be held to account for their actions.

The former Female Factory, recognised by many groups for its importance as a site of social history, has become a memorial beacon in the international landscape of social conscience and a marker for reconciliation. The site has been activated in response to community pressure to address, apologise and heal the many injustices, indignities and deprivations which have been inflicted on individuals and groups by laws and policies enacted by State and Federal Parliaments and administered by government and secular authorities. Milestones in this social revolution impact on the social significance of sites in the Cumberland Precinct because some of the adults and children so affected are represented among Australia's Stolen Generation and Forgotten Australians.

On Wednesday 13 February 2008, Prime Minister Kevin Rudd MP, delivered a public apology to the Aboriginal peoples of Australia for the pain and suffering caused to them through the removal of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children from their families and the pain and suffering inflicted on them and their families by these actions. On behalf of the Australian Parliament, with the unequivocal support of the Government's Opposition, he vowed to

close the gap between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians and build a future based on equality, mutual respect, mutual resolve and mutual responsibility. 15

On 16 November 2009, on behalf of the Australian Government, Prime Minister Kevin Rudd delivered an unqualified apology to Forgotten Australians and Child Migrants who suffered abuse or neglect in care. <sup>16</sup> He was supported by the (then) Opposition Leader, Malcolm Turnbull at a ceremony for an assembled gathering of Forgotten Australians and their supporters in Parliament House in Canberra. Kevin Rudd's apology was subsequently followed in 2009 by Prime Minister Julia Gillard's National Apology for Forced Adoptions which aimed to increase awareness and understanding of experiences of individuals affected by forced adoption practices through opportunities to identify and share experiences of forced adoption. Each of these Apologies has had great significance to Stolen Generation and Forgotten Australians who had spent time in institutions at Parramatta.

That same year, NSW Premier Nathan Rees MP acknowledged the suffering inflicted on those subjected to the physical, mental and sexual abuse in children's homes, orphanages, foster homes and institutions at the unveiling of a memorial in Sydney's Botanic Gardens. This did not represent however, the formal parliamentary response redressing the injustices that survivors and their families of more than 200,000 children who were taken into care in NSW in the last century that they had hoped to hear. It did, however, inspire the Forgotten Australians of the Parramatta Girls Home to develop the Female Factory Precinct Project in their mission to activate the site as an International Site of Conscience and to bring together artists, educators, academics, historians and the community to create inspiring and creative responses to social injustice through reconciliation and memorialisation.<sup>17</sup>

The Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse commenced in 2013 and is currently hearing evidence of institutional responses to allegations and incidents of child sexual abuse. <sup>18</sup>On 7 February 2014, 16 women who had been inmates at Parramatta Girls' Home in the period between 1950 and 1974 gave evidence to the Royal Commission. <sup>19</sup> Their evidence included disturbing accounts of physical and sexual abuse by staff and sometimes older girls, punishments and medical intervention, all of which has had devastating and long-lasting effects on their mental health and on their families.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> Apology to Australia's Indigenous peoples accessed at http://australia.gov.au/about-australia/our-<u>country/our-people/apology-to-australias-indigenous-peoples</u> 30 August 2014

Apology <a href="http://www.forgottenaustralians.org.au/commission.htm">http://www.forgottenaustralians.org.au/commission.htm</a>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> http://www.parragirls.org.au accessed 30 August 2014

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> http://www.childabuseroyalcommission.gov.au accessed 30 August 2014

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> Case Study 7, Public Hearing into the Parramatta Girls Training School, Sydney NSW and The Institution for Girls, Hay NSW file:///C:/Users/Win7/Downloads/case-study-7--february-2014--sydney-opening-address.pdf accessed 30 August 2014

#### 5.0 TIME, PLACE, PEOPLE MATRIX

Social values connect time, people and places and help guide the identification of heritage places important to the community and the esteem with which they are held. Analysis of documentary and oral evidence enables the tangible and intangible social values of the site to be identified. It should be noted that in the timeframe for preparation of this report, only an overview has been possible and further research and analysis will be required to more fully inform site specific issues.

#### **5.1** Sports and Leisure Precinct

TIME	PLACE	PEOPLE
Tangible The Sports and Leisure Precinct occupies traditional Aboriginal land which was important as occupation, hunting and fishing ground for over 20,000 years. The site is archaeologically significant for its potential to provide information about Aboriginal social and cultural history.	Intangible The site retains spiritual and cultural associations for Aboriginal people, particularly the Aboriginal people, and provides opportunities for intergenerational sharing of knowledge and traditions.	Tangible Research has demonstrated that the presence of large and cohesive Aboriginal groups in the area represents a conspicuous and enduring aspect of the post-colonial periods of Parramatta's development. Aboriginal people have contributed to sporting achievements associated with contemporary use of this site.
TIME	PLACE	PEOPLE
Tangible The Sports and Leisure Precinct is the heart of Parramatta's professional and recreational sporting and leisure life and has for over 165 years, been associated with a variety of sporting activities, including horse-racing, cricket, various codes of football, baseball and motor cycle and speed- car racing.	Tangible Cumberland Oval has been for over 60 years the home ground to the Parramatta Rugby League Team, now known as 'The Eels'. The team references its identity to the meaning of the word Parramatta –'the place where the eels lie down'.	Tangible Significant sporting personalities have been associated with professional and competitive sport played at the sporting facilities associated with this precinct including Olympic swimmers, motor racing legend, Jack Brabham, cricketer Doug Walters, footballers Mick Cronin, Ray Price, Steve Ella Peter Stirling and Jared Hayne.  Tangible The site is also important for education, training and recreational sporting activities enjoyed by the

of Cumberland Precinct and Sports and Leisure Precinct and Interpretive Framework

community and for the promotion and support of Aboriginal players.

Generations of local school students have attended competitive sporting events

at the facilities on the site.

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#### 5.2 Cumberland Precinct

#### 5.2.1 Female Factory, former Roman Catholic Orphanage, Parramatta Girls Home

TIME	PLACE	PEOPLE
Tangible	Tangible	Intangible
The buildings in the Female	The Female Factory at	The Female Factory area has
Factory area (from 1818)	Parramatta was the first	significant associations with
provide tangible evidence of	purpose-built convict	former occupants and is a
the progressive development	establishment designed to	place sacred to their
of the site for a multitude of	provide accommodation and	memory which has the
institutional purposes	employment for convict	power to evoke mixed
including a convict depot,	women. The evolving	emotional responses
workhouse, hospital, refuge,	institutional history of the	(positive and negative) in
asylum, reform school, and	site underlines aspects of,	respect of their experiences.
detention centre. The	and attitudes to, social	The subculture which existed
intactness of the site,	order, moral values, gender,	in this environment united
including buildings, relics and	religion, disadvantage and	occupants against authority
landscape, provides a	vulnerability.	and was the catalyst for
narrative of the historical		demonstrations against
development of, and		abuse and exploitation in
changing attitudes to the welfare system, criminal		riotous behaviour.
behaviour and mental health		Intangible and tangible
in NSW, for almost 200		The sites have potential to
years, particularly in regard		reveal information about
to women and children.		physical and mental abuse,
to women and emaren.		Stolen and Forgotten
		Australians and are highly
		significant to the
		understanding of gender,
		sectarianism and authority in
		NSW.

TIME	PLACE	PEOPLE
Tangible	Tangible	Tangible and Intangible
In 2003, former Parramatta	The Female Factory area, as	Through community group
Girls re-united for the first	a recognised international	efforts, the Female Factory
time since leaving the	Site of Conscience (2014),	has become an exemplar as
institution.	has become a place	a site of empowerment and
	dedicated as a living	healing. They have
Tangible	memorial to the Forgotten	established on the site, a
In 2009, following two	Australians and others	creative environment where
Commonwealth	marginalised by society.	artists, traditional owners
Parliamentary Inquiries, the		and former occupants can
Australian Government	Intangible	work together in ways which
recognised former occupants	The site has become an	engage the wider community
of this site among the over	important symbol of hope	in informed conversations
500,000 'Forgotten	and a venue for activities	and dialogue which facilitate
Australians' in an official	and associations which	understanding and promotes
apology. Included among	remember past struggles and	empathy and reconciliation.
these were an estimated	addresses their	Their shared experiences
12% of former 'Parra Girls'	contemporary legacies	have informed a ground-
who were of Aboriginal	across the wider community.	breaking exhibition at the
descent, some of whom		National Museum of
belong to the Stolen	Tangible	Australia, publications, a play
Generation. More recently,	The community has	performed at Parramatta's
evidence which relates	identified the Female Factory	Riverside Theatre and the
directly to people associated	area as a significant convict	NSW school education
with this site has been	site which has national and	curriculum.
presented to the ongoing	international significance.	
Royal Commission into		
Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse.		
Ciliu Sexual Abuse.		

#### 5.2.2 Former Asylums

TIME	PLACE	PEOPLE
Tangible	Tangible	Tangible
Since its establishment in	The siting design,	The site has been associated
1849, the former Lunatic	construction, purpose,	with major figures in the
Asylum Parramatta evolved	adaptation and reuse of	State's mental health care
to become as Cumberland	structures on the site reflect	system, including medical
Hospital today, the second	changing attitudes, regimes	superintendents, doctors,
oldest institution providing	and protocols for the care	matrons, nursing staff and
on-site mental health patient	and treatment and patients	specialists who have
care in NSW. Here,	and demonstrate the	developed and implemented
generations of medical	importance of philosophies	major reforms, improved
administrators, clinicians and	such as 'moral treatment' on	treatment procedures and
nursing staff have cared for	the design and execution of	therapies.
some of the State's most	the landscape of the place.	
vulnerable people for over		Intangible
175 years.		The frailty of human nature
		dominates the social
		significance of the Asylum
		site and creates a landscape
		of despair and vulnerability.
		So too does the compassion
		and work ethos of the
		people in whose care the
		patients were entrusted.

TIME	PEOPLE	PLACE
Tangible	Tangible	Tangible
Threats to demolish the	The enclosed nature of the	The landscaped grounds
heritage buildings since the	site offered protection to its	represent the labours of
1980s on the Cumberland	inhabitants but created a	patients who created the
Hospital East Campus have	hidden community. The	terracing, rustic features,
been vigorously opposed by	annual Wisteria fete and	walls (including those along
the community which	social programs which have	Fleet Street), kerbs, roads
considered the buildings to	integrated patients into the	and tended to the formal
have significant	community have helped to	and exotic plantings across
architectural, historical and	demystify the site and	the site. These grounds
social values.	reduced stigmas associated	softened the institutional
	with mental health.	landscape and were
		important to the well-being
	Tangible	of patients and appreciated
	The Cumberland Hospital	by the community for their
	Museum contains	important botanical
	irreplaceable relics	plantings.
	associated with the history	
	of the care treatment and	
	patient management of	
	inmates of the asylum at	
	Parramatta. Although not	
	within the study precinct,	
	the items have exceptional	
	significance to the	
	Cumberland Hospital East	
	Campus.	

#### 5.2.3 Parramatta Gaol

TIME	PLACE	PEOPLE
Tangible	Tangible	Tangible
Until its closure in 2011,	Parramatta Gaol	As the oldest and most intact
Parramatta Gaol was the	demonstrates, through its	early gaol in NSW, it has
oldest surviving gaol in use in	design, social order and	strong documented
Australia, providing	adaptation, the imposition of	associations with people
accommodation and	changing penal philosophies	who shaped prison regimes
punishment for prisoners	and government policies	in NSW and with those
since 1842. It is important	during the 19 <sup>th</sup> and 20 <sup>th</sup>	shaped by them.
for its long associations with	century in NSW. It has the	,
criminal history and justice in	ability to interpret the	Intangible
NSW.	conditions in which the	Parramatta Gaol has strong
	prisoners lived during their	and long associations with
	incarceration and the	particular communities in
	inequalities experienced by	NSW. Among the many
	prisoners resulting from	people to have occupied the
	discriminatory legislation,	Gaol since its establishment
	particularly during the 19 <sup>th</sup>	in the 1840s are some of
	century for Aboriginal	society's most disadvantaged
	people.	and vulnerable people,
		including Aboriginal
	Tangible	Australians and the mentally
	The high forbidding walls	ill, as well as some
	encircling the Gaol are a	particularly high-profile
	symbol of the authority of	prisoners. It has the ability to
	the institution. Inside, the	interpret changing social
	hierarchical separation of	values and attitudes to
	functions project the	crime, patterns of criminal
	intentional and punitive	behaviour, sectarianism,
	removal of criminals from	ethnicity and gender.
	society. This landmark	
	building defines an	Tangible and Intangible
	impenetrable façade to	Parramatta Gaol is currently
	O'Connell and Dunlop	the subject of a land claim by
	Streets and is an important	the Deerrubbin Local
	element in the streetscape	Aboriginal Land Council. The
	of north Parramatta for its	site represents land which
	symbolic representation.	has traditional and cultural
		associations with Aboriginal
	Tangible	people. Aboriginal people
	Prison enterprise at	have been among the people
	Parramatta Gaol provided	imprisoned in the Gaol.
	labour and skill training for	
	detainees and contributed to	
	the State's economy through	
	the manufacture and	

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	production of goods and services for sale. The linen service currently provides employment in the community.	

#### 6.0 ASSESSING SOCIAL SIGNIFICANCE

#### 6.1 Assessment Criteria

The Heritage Division, NSW Environment and Heritage has established assessment criteria which encompass the four values identified in the *Australia ICOMOS Burra Charter*. The following are accepted generic values:

- historical significance
- aesthetic significance
- scientific significance
- social significance

This baseline survey addresses the social values associated with the heritage significance of places within the two precincts identified by UrbanGrowth NSW for proposed rezoning in the Parramatta North Urban Renewal area. Part of the study area is included in the NSW State Heritage Register for built and historical (European) archaeological values and their social significance has been documented in heritage listings for Parramatta Park and Old Government House; Cumberland Hospital Group and Parramatta Gaol. However, it must be noted again that detailed social significance and cultural mapping studies, including oral histories, were beyond the scope of this brief.

Social significance relates to those qualities which define society as a community and its organisation and which are valued by that community. In assessing social significance of heritage places, the Heritage Division considers that social significance applies if 'An item has strong or special social, cultural or spiritual associations and attachments with a particular community or cultural group in NSW at State or local level.' (Criterion d) <sup>20</sup>.

These values can also be assessed according to their representativeness – whether the site demonstrates the principal characteristics and is a good representative example of that site type; and rarity - the degree to which such a site is known elsewhere and whether the site is uncommon, rare and endangered. Heritage items are also ranked for their level of social significance as Exceptional, High, Moderate, Low and Intrusive. This study has concentrated on items identified as having Exceptional and High social significance through a process of consultation and review of documentary sources. More detailed investigations may be required where social values have not been identified to inform specific development proposals.

The buildings associated with the Norma Parker Centre are identified in their heritage listing as 'the oldest surviving purpose built Catholic Orphanage in NSW; the only surviving example of the secular work of Henry Ginn in NSW; and the only surviving example of a 19th

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> Assessing Heritage Significance published by the Heritage Division, NSW Office of Environment and Heritage, 2001

Parramatta North Urban Renewal and Rezoning: Baseline Assessment of Social Significance of Cumberland Precinct and Sports and Leisure Precinct and Interpretive Framework century Industrial School in NSW'. <sup>21</sup>There is no assessment for rarity or representativeness in the SHR listing for Parramatta Gaol or Cumberland Hospital.

For the purposes of this study social significance values have been identified for a baseline assessment. This process was informed by a literature review, discussions with the consultant team and through the opportunities to consult with the community through UrbanGrowth NSW's public stakeholder sessions. Further research and wider consultation with individuals and groups will be necessary to assess social significance and to identify specific elements as contributory to the overall heritage values of the site.to inform the proposals for potential redevelopment of particular parts of the Precincts

It is further noted that the Cumberland Precinct is a site of conflicting social values and significance. For some people associated with it, the walls and buildings represent a safe haven, the landscape a place of reflection and healing. For others the walls are forbidding, the buildings are associated with fear and loathing and the landscape alien.

#### **6.2** Sports and Leisure Precinct

# **6.2.1** Summary and Ranking of Social Significance Values of the Sports and Leisure Precinct The Sports and Leisure Precinct includes land within the curtilage of Parramatta Park. The SHR Listing identifies the Government Farm and the Government Domain as part of Parramatta. Components of the Sports and Leisure Precinct which will be affected by

Parramatta. Components of the Sports and Leisure Precinct which will be affected by rezoning associated with the PNUR area have been identified and ranked for their social values and significance:

THE SITE	SOCIAL SIGNIFICANCE VALUES	RANKING
Traditional	The site of the Sports and Leisure	Exceptional social significance
Aboriginal land	Precinct is important to Aboriginal	to Aboriginal people
	people, as their traditional land and for	
	the evidence it may contain about their	
	Aboriginal heritage and way of life and	
	its spiritual and cultural associations	
	and traditions. It is also significant as a	
	site which is associated with European	
	intervention and the subsequent	
	dispossession of Aboriginal land.	
	Aboriginal people have, and continue	
	to participate in sporting activities	
	here.	

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> SHR Listing Parramatta Gaol (SHR 00812)

THE SITE	SOCIAL SIGNIFICANCE VALUES	RANKING
Potential archaeological evidence	The site of the Government Farm (currently a car park) is likely to contain archaeological evidence of early colonial farming activities in Parramatta and early European enterprise and social order and organisation. It can be interpreted in the wider context of the Government Farm, Old Government House and the former Government Domain and its links to other archaeological sites in Parramatta provides a much larger social narrative.	Exceptional significance for potential to contain archaeological evidence associated with the colony's first successful agricultural enterprise and its operators and its organisation.
Parramatta War Memorial Swimming Centre	Built after World War II as a war memorial and community funded initiative, it is valued by generations of local residents who learned to swim, attended carnivals for competitive swimming and have enjoyed recreation there.	High social significance at a local level for its use and as a community funded war memorial amenity
Old Kings Oval*	Important as former sportsground for The Kings School and currently home to Parramatta District Cricket Club. The stand is named in honour of former member and international test player, Doug Walters.	Exceptional social significance for its association with State and local grade.
Cumberland Oval*	Home ground of Parramatta Eels Club and major event venue for western Sydney and former multi-purpose oval serving a wide range of professional and community sporting events and community participation.	Exceptional/high social significance at local and State level to Parramatta Eels players and supporters
Parramatta Leagues Club Clubhouse*	Important to members as sporting and social venue and significant contributor to local community initiatives.	High social significance to the Leagues Club members and the local community

SITE FEATURES	SOCIAL SIGNIFICANCE VALUES	RANKING
Ross Street	1930s replacement of former 'Mud	Moderate/low social
Gatehouse	Gate Lodge' after which horse races in the old racecourse on the site were named. Important as a marker associated the with the former Park boundary as public open space.	significance
	, at plant open open.	

<sup>\*</sup>It should be noted Old Kings Oval, Cumberland Oval incorporating Pirtek Stadium and the Parramatta Leagues Club are not affected by the rezoning proposal but have been included in this Study to meet the requirement for reviewing previous studies.

#### **6.3 Cumberland Hospital Precinct**

#### 6.3.1 Previously identified social significance values for the Cumberland Precinct

The Cumberland Precinct includes an area which has been identified on the State Heritage Register as Cumberland Hospital Heritage Precinct. This grouping of buildings is contained within a site bounded by Fleet Street to the east, Parramatta Goal to the north-east, Parramatta Girls' Training School to the south, and the Westmead Hospital Complex to the west. The Statement of Significance for the Cumberland Hospital Group recognises the site as having National significance and in continuous institutional use since 1818.<sup>22</sup> It further recognises that what survives of the various buildings, relics and landscapes provides a valuable insight into changing attitudes to welfare, criminal behaviour and mental health, over a period of 175 years. For Criterion [d] the Social Significance in the Assessment of Significance for the SHR Listing of the Cumberland Hospital Group notes:

The collection of buildings, built for the Lunatic Asylum in the 1870s through to 1910, are outstanding examples of public architecture. Despite their functional simplicity they manifest handsome exteriors, framing the adjoining courtyards in a pleasant human scale. Building 1A, with its imposing clock tower, contributes a sense of dignity and formality.

The architecture of the precinct generally reflects Victorian, Georgian and Classical Revival notions of grandeur. Each of the buildings from the 1870-1901 period reflects the influence of Colonial and Government Architect's J Barnet and WL Vernon, as well as FN Manning, the then Inspector General for all lunatic asylums in New South Wales.

The SHR Listing identifies the following Items of State Significance within Cumberland Hospital:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> State Heritage Register Inventory Listing http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/heritageapp/ViewHeritageItemDetails.aspx?ID=5051959 accessed 24 August 2014

Ward 1; Ward 1 Day Room; Accommodation Block for Wards 2 and 3; Ward 4 West Range; Ward 4 North Range; Former Ward 5 South Range; Kitchen Block; former Day Room for Wards 4 and 5; Cricket Shelter; Administration Building; Grounds, Sandstone Perimeter and Courtyard Block Walling and Ha Ha.

Specific features additional to this list are recognised on the Department of Health's Section 170 Register (including the Female Factory clock and bell).

The following summary identifies items which have been identified through this study as having exceptional and high significance as tangible and intangible evidence important to individuals and groups associated with the site.

SITE	SOCIAL SIGNIFICANCE VALUES	RANKING
Traditional Aboriginal land	The Cumberland Precinct site, including Parramatta Park land, the riverbank and riparian corridor, is important to Aboriginal people, as their traditional land and for the evidence it may contain about their Aboriginal heritage and way of life and its spiritual and cultural associations and traditions. It is also significant as a site which is associated with European intervention and the subsequent dispossession of Aboriginal land. Aboriginal people have, and continue to participate in sporting activities here.	Exceptional social significance to Aboriginal people.
Potential European archaeological evidence	The sites associated with agricultural enterprise including the Reverend Samuel Marsden's mill farm, dam and race and evidence of Mrs Betts house are likely to contain archaeological evidence which will contribute to our understanding of early colonial farming activities in Parramatta and social order and organisation associated with those activities. It can be interpreted in the wider context of the Government Farm, Old Government House and the former Government Domain and its links to other archaeological sites in Parramatta to provide a much larger social narrative.	Exceptional social significance for potential to contain archaeological evidence associated with the colony's early agriculture and social development.
Riparian corridor	It is important to the scientific and ecological community as a natural habitat native Grey-headed flying fox (listed as	High social significance to ecological groups who were active in

'vulnerable' on the IUCN Red List of	seeking protection for
Threatened Species).	conservation and
	habitat values

SITE	SOCIAL SIGNIFICANCE VALUES	RANKING
Riverbank and	Proximity to water for industries associated	
terraces	with the Female Factory was an important	
	factor in the choice of its location. The	
	riverbank provided a calming and tranquil	
	environment for the patients throughout	
	the evolution of the asylum precinct.	
	Landscape features along the river,	
	including the river terraces were built by	
	former patients as part of their therapeutic	
	activities and are evidence of the	
	organisation of labour on the site.	

BUILT FABRIC	SOCIAL SIGNIFICANCE VALUES	RANKING
Female Factory	The former Female Factory holds tangible	Exceptional social
(1818-1848)	and intangible evidence associated with	significance as evidence
All extant	convict era, particularly in respect of	of the hierarchical
structures and	women, their assignment, classification,	living, working and
remnants including	religious and educational regimes,	incarceration conditions
wards, walls,	accommodation and living conditions,	for convict women
privies, landscape	welfare and work. They have the potential	
features and	to demonstrate aspects of social	
archaeology	organisation, industry associated with the	
	convict period.	
	The river side setting of the Female Factory	
	provided a source of water for its textile	
	industries Some of these buildings were	
	reassigned as wards for the Lunatic Asylum	
	in 1848.	
Cell block	This site has remnant evidence (and	Items identified have
extension 1838	potential archaeological evidence) of early	exceptional and high
	incarceration facilities and the Gipps yard	social significance as a
	and walls are important in understanding	response to changing
	the social order and punishment regimes	regimes associated with
	during the early convict era. The more	punishment; evidence
	recent shelter shed is important for its	of work areas for
	association with the Lunatic Asylum and	patient industry and
	while the artisans workshops are associated	therapy.
	with 20 <sup>th</sup> century staff work practices and	

therapeutic industry for patients. An old	
boot-making machine survives in this	
complex of workshops.	

BUILT FABRIC	SOCIAL SIGNIFICANCE VALUES	RANKING
Parramatta Lunatic Asylum (1848- 1878)	Buildings and structures associated with this phase demonstrate social order, segregation and classification systems applied to the management of patients during the mid-late 19 <sup>th</sup> century, especially demonstrated in the Spinal Range and Wards 1-4 (and courtyard spaces and airing yards), dining rooms and shelter sheds. The reuse of buildings indicates the application of economic rationalism in repurposing existing buildings and the application of public architecture to a social institution. The relocated Georgian clock (from the Female Factory, a gift from King George IV to the colony) and the bell and stand are important symbols of the importance of routine in the management of patients, while the former Female Asylum stores and laundry are associated with work regimes for patients.	Identified items have exceptional and high social significance as evidence of the early social organisation of the place as an institution dedicated to the welfare of the mentally ill
Parramatta Hospital for the Insane (1878- 1960)	The changing nature of mental health philosophies is reflected in the siting and design of buildings associated with government architect WL Vernon and his contemporaries. The buildings and structures appear less institutional and more domestic in scale, set out with more room between them and more functionally independent. These features are reflected in the separation of wards - male and female Wards 7 and 8, the small cottages (Pine Cottage, Wattle Cottage), the kitchen block, dining room and staff accommodation for managers, nurses and domestic staff while the Administration Block, male hospital and day room are evidence of patient and visitor regimes. Ward 8 has a significant mural painted by a former patient and recognised Australian	Items identified have exceptional and high social significance as evidence of the changing government policies and procedures associated with the care and treatment of mentally ill patients, structural changes to the management of staff and patients

	artist, Arnold St Clair. The laundry was a place of work for patients and has some significance as a place of work and industry. The Amusement Hall, built largely through the labours of patients and hospital artisans was the focus for a wide range of activities for staff and patients and was used as a chapel and for social activities including dances and film nights. The air raid shelters are evidence of local response to patient and staff welfare during World War 2.	
Parramatta Psychiatric Centre (1960-1983)	Although now disused, the pool was built in the 1960s for patients with proceeds raised from Wisteria Fetes by staff of the Hospital and was valued as a recreational sporting facility. The former artisan's workshops have social significance as the workshops for therapeutic activities for patients who produced items for sale at annual Wisteria Fetes. The Phoenix Café (renovated in the 1990s) is valued by staff as a meeting place. The isolation precinct (Bunya) is an intrusive modern structure but is likely to have negative social values for staff, patients and families.	Moderate to high social significance to patients and staff

LANDSCAPE ITEMS	SOCIAL SIGNIFICANCE VALUES	RANKING
Sporting facilities - cricket shelter, sports oval and bowling green	Sporting facilities were provided to encourage physical activity and foster cooperative relationships and trust between patients and staff. They were used for team sports and competitions with staff, patients and teams from other institutions. They were popular venues for social activities and valued by staff and patients.	Exceptional significance as evidence of staff and patient relationships and the importance of sport as patient therapy
Fleet Street, 1930s	The rusticated stone walls which line Fleet Street were made using local stone and built by patients during the Depression and have been identified by the community as an important streetscape feature associated with former patients.	Exceptional social significance as evidence of patient labour and as contribution to the landscape character in the public domain.

LANDSCAPE ITEMS	SOCIAL SIGNIFICANCE VALUES	RANKING
Landscaped	The open landscaped character of the site	Exceptional/ high social
grounds including	with its 'botanical garden' plantings is	significance as evidence
botanical	evidence of a design intent to improve	of patient labours and
plantings,	patient well-being. This 'moral' landscape	as a landscape of moral
courtyards,	accords with Dr Norton Manning's	reform
fountains, roads,	philosophies which sought to bring a sense	
river terraces,	of calm and order to the asylum	
haha, perimeter	environment and to engage patients in	
and courtyard	therapy through the creation and care of	
walls	that environment. The Ha Ha was a device	
	to contain patients on site while still	
	allowing them to view the landscape.	
	The nomenclature of many of the cottages	
	on site with botanical names reflects the	
	importance of botanical associations on the	
	site. The establishment of an on-site	
	gardener's cottage reflects the importance	
	of his position to the establishment.	

ITEM	SOCIAL SIGNIFICANCE VALUES	RANKING
Movable heritage	Many items of movable heritage significant to the activities associated with mental health activities conducted on this site have been identified by former staff as having exceptional significance to the history of the place and relocated to the Cumberland Hospital Museum in <i>Glengariff</i> in the western campus of Cumberland Hospital.	Exceptional to high significance as evidence of the impact of mental health procedures and treatments on patients
	Movable heritage has been included in this assessment as the collection at Cumberland Hospital includes many significant items with direct (in situ) associations to the site. Other mental hospitals have not retained comprehensive collection and remaining items have been dispersed.  Movable heritage has the potential to	
	significantly add to the future interpretation of the site.	

### 6.3.3 Norma Parker Correctional Centre (incorporating the former Roman Catholic Orphanage and Parramatta Girls Industrial School/Home)

The collection of buildings and structures identified as the Norma Parker Centre relate to the former Roman Catholic Orphanage and the former Parramatta Industrial School and Girls Home. They have been identified as having exceptional social significance to individuals and groups.

The Assessment of Significance in the SHR Listing for the group of buildings known as the Norma Parker Correctional Centre recognises it is the oldest surviving purpose built Catholic Orphanage in NSW; the only surviving example of the secular work of Henry Ginn in NSW; and the only surviving example of a 19th century Industrial School in NSW. It identifies its Social Significance [Criterion d]<sup>23</sup>:

The Roman Catholic orphanage at Parramatta superseded an earlier Catholic Orphanage at Waverley established in 1837 after a vote of 600 pounds per annum was given the previous year by the Legislative Council.

In its design and planning, the Roman Catholic Orphanage Society reflects current social attitudes to such institutions. Its development over a period of 42 years chronicles the changes in such attitudes.

The need for such orphanages arose from the social problems of early Colonial NSW; broken families through imprisonment of either parent; reunion of emancipated convicts with their British families; abandonment of illegitimate children, incarceration of the mother in the nearby Female Factory; and, in the 1850s, the desertion of fathers to the goldfields.

Following the occupation of the orphanage in 1844, additional land was granted to the trustees in 1849, 1853 and 1864-65. All of this land was previously part of the Governor's Domain, Parramatta, which was progressively reduced in size, following the compaction of the new Government House, Sydney in 1845.

The number of children in the orphanage grew from 113 in 1844 to 331 in 1873, at which time there was accommodation for only 250. The constant battle for funds to maintain the institution and expand to meet growing demands, led to overcrowding and buildings in a poor state of repair. This, combined with more stringent government regulation ultimately led to the demise of the orphanage in 1886.

The Assessment mentions the establishment of the Parramatta Girls Home on this site from 1887 but does not address its social significance.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> State Heritage Register Inventory Listing <a href="http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/heritageapp/ViewHeritageItemDetails.aspx?ID=5012148">http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/heritageapp/ViewHeritageItemDetails.aspx?ID=5012148</a> accessed 24 August 2014

BUILT FABRIC	SOCIAL SIGNIFICANCE VALUES	RANKING
Norma Parker	These buildings are evidence of	Exceptional social significance
Centre - former	adaptive reuse of buildings on site and	for its sensitive associations
Roman Catholic	are associated with institutional	with former inmates and staff
Orphanage,	welfare and juvenile justice and the	and as evidence of changing
(1844-1886).	evolution of activities on the site from	attitudes and responses to
Airing Grounds,	the mid-19 <sup>th</sup> century. The former	their care and management in
later Parramatta	Roman Catholic Orphanage comprised	respect of social and moral
Industrial	the main building, a covered walkway,	order, discipline, authority,
School/Girls	the south-west range, chapel, Bethel	gender and sectarianism.
Home (1886-	House, laundry, gatehouse, and play	
1974), Kamballa	sheds. To this was added a hospital	
and Taldree	wing, industrial school building and	
Children's	cottages for the Parramatta Industrial	
Shelter (1974-	School/Girls Home. The walls and	
1986) and	fences are significant as manifestations	
Norma Parker	of punishment and removal from	
Centre (1980-	society. The site is considered to have	
2008)	exceptional social significance relating	
	to the care of dispossessed children,	
	reform practices, physical and mental	
	abuse, authority, repression and	
	secular/gender based institutional	
	conditions for inmates. The site has	
	become a place of memory, healing and	
	has been recognised as an International	
	Site of Conscience for former Parra	
	Girls, the wider community of	
	institutionalised girls and boys and their	
	families and Stolen and Forgotten	
	Australians.	

#### 6.3.4 Parramatta Gaol (Parramatta Correctional Centre)

While Parramatta Gaol is outside the boundary identified for rezoning, it is an important contributor to the heritage significance of north Parramatta and relates to the institutional history of the area from the 1840s.

The Assessment of Significance for Parramatta Gaol (Parramatta Correctional Centre) recognises its heritage values but does not include any assessment of its social significance.<sup>24</sup>

Up until its closure in 2011, the Parramatta Correctional Centre was the oldest gaol in original use in Australia. It is the most intact of the pre-1850's gaols of Australia. (Kerr 1995: 46) It has strong, documented, century and a half associations with people who have shaped its fabric and regimes and with those who have been shaped by it. (Kerr 1995: 46) The complex is also of value to Parramatta as an element in a group of early institutions linked by a parkland setting along the left bank of the Parramatta River, including the Cumberland Hospital (former Female Factory 1822) and the Norma Parker Centre. (former Roman Catholic Orphan School of 1841-43)

The constructional character and quality of the early buildings, in particular the stone slab floors, ashlar walls and timber roof trusses, are exceptional. (Kerr 1995: 46) It is significant in its physical and spatial quality as an enclosed complex: in particular the character established by its coherent architectural form and predominant sandstone and slate materials.

The fabric reflects the shifts in penal philosophy and changes in use from the 1830's to the construction of Long Bay in the early twentieth century. (Kerr 1995: 46) The fabric is an educational and archaeological resource, as a continuing document of Australian social history and a potential source of information about the cultural past of the colony since 1788.

ITEM	SOCIAL SIGNIFICANCE VALUES	RANKING
Parramatta	Until its closure in 2011, Parramatta Gaol	Exceptional social significance
Gaol (1842-	was the oldest goal in original use in	to former inmates and staff as
2011)	Australia and is the most intact penal	a place of punishment, reform
	establishment of the pre 1850s period.	and industry and as evidence
	The Gaol is significant as evidence of	of changing government and
	original 1840s design and layout of	social attitudes to welfare
	prison according to contemporary prison	associated with incarceration.
	theory. Perimeter walls, entrance gates,	
	watchtower, catwalk, gatehouse, gaol	

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> State Heritage Register Inventory Listing <a href="http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/heritageapp/ViewHeritageItemDetails.aspx?ID=5000657">http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/heritageapp/ViewHeritageItemDetails.aspx?ID=5000657</a> accessed 24 August 2014

managers' staff residences, former female hospital, cell wings and muster, cell wing yards, cookhouse, chapel, deadhouse and carpenter's shop have social values as evidence of changing prison philosophy and reform regimes. Most of the fabric was built by prison labour. It is a major streetscape element on north Parramatta and has strong tangible and intangible associations for staff and former inmates.

Although visually intrusive, the modern linen service facility provides evidence of commercial activity as prison industry and skill training and former site of prison farm and would have social values to former inmates who worked in the facility.

#### 6.4 Summary of social values

#### 6.4.1 Sports and Leisure Precinct

The site is traditional land of Aboriginal people. It is important for archaeological evidence it may contain and for its connections with ancient and contemporary people.

The site is likely to reveal information about the colony's first successful agricultural enterprise.

Since the 1840s, the site has been associated with a diverse range of sporting activities which have significance to participants and supporters, including horse-racing, speed car and motor cycle racing, cricket, football.

The Sports and Leisure Precinct is valued by the community for its public facilities and the opportunities they have provided, and continue to provide, for professional and recreational sport and entertainment.

The social significance is embodied in the activities of the place and the opportunities, past and present, to engage with special interest sporting groups including players, supporters and entertainers. These values relating to place are considered to be more significant than the actual fabric of the structures and buildings, most of which is relatively recent.

Sporting clubs associated with the site provide education, training and competition across a broad range of sports, including several codes of football, swimming and cricket and will have enduring social values to people who have been involved in these programs.

The Parramatta War Memorial Swimming Centre is recognised as more significant at local level for its use as an amenity serving the people of Parramatta for over 50 years, rather than its built fabric which has recently undergone extensive refurbishment (2008).

#### **6.4.2 Cumberland Precinct**

The site is traditional land of Aboriginal people. It is important for archaeological evidence it may contain and for its connections with ancient and contemporary people.

The site is likely to reveal information about the Reverend Samuel Marsden's agricultural activities, his family and water engineering.

The Cumberland Precinct incorporates the former Female Factory, former Lunatic Asylum, and former Roman Catholic Orphanage. It has been associated with the welfare of some of society's most disadvantaged people, including female convicts, male and female mental patients and orphans.

The buildings have been used, adapted and re-used over 175 years for purposes associated with welfare. The former Parramatta Girls Home is important to the girls who spent time there and despite its unenviable reputation, it has become a place associated with reconciliation and healing.

The buildings, structures, spaces and landscape demonstrate and interpret changing philosophies and government policies associated with the care, treatment, punishment, reform and management of the occupants.

The site is important to the Stolen Generation and Forgotten Australians and to the community which has supported its significant heritage values and its significance to people associated with institutions on the site, particularly the 'Parra girls'.

The Female Factory area has been recognised as an international Site of Conscience.

Parramatta Gaol was until its closure in 2011, Australia's oldest original purpose-built prison in operating use. It documents the evolution of the prison system and changing regimes associated with incarceration and reform.

It housed some of NSW most notorious criminals and numbered among its prison population, many Aboriginal people.

#### 7.0 STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Parramatta North Urban Renewal area includes suites of buildings and landscape elements which have been identified as having National, State and Local heritage significance. It adjoins the site of Old Government House and Domain identified on Australia's National Heritage List and the World Heritage List.

The Sports and Leisure Precinct and the Cumberland Precinct and the landscape of Parramatta Park are significant to Aboriginal people because the sites are likely to contain evidence of Aboriginal occupation which connects contemporary people to their ancestors. This continuing association is important in the transfer of Aboriginal cultural heritage, spiritual associations and traditional way of life between generations.

The Precincts are significant for their potential to reveal, through archaeological investigation and research, information about Aboriginal occupation and early European settlement, government farming, enterprise and social organisation and Reverend Samuel Marsden's water engineering; and the Aboriginal intervention and dispossession which followed the arrival and early settlement at Parramatta.

The Sports and Leisure Precinct has been central to the recreational and sporting life in western Sydney since the 1840s and includes sites for horse-racing, motor cycle and speed car racing, school sports and major international events. As home grounds for the Parramatta District Cricket Club from the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century, The Kings School and the Parramatta Eels Rugby League football team from 1947 they are associated with significant sporting personalities at local, state, national and international representation. These sporting associations are a major contributor to the identity of Parramatta. Participants and spectators value the sites and their facilities as important places for social community engagement. The Parramatta Swimming Centre, established as a war memorial and community funded project, has been a popular amenity for recreational and competitive swimming, enjoyed by the community since 1956.

The Cumberland Precinct, including the former Female Factory and the former Asylums and the Norma Parker Centre (including the former Roman Catholic Orphanage and former Parramatta Girls Industrial/Home/Training School) are significant as sites of tangible and intangible heritage which demonstrate institutional social and moral order and behaviour, particularly as it impacts on disadvantaged and vulnerable people in society. The evolution of buildings, spaces and structures document the application and outcomes of changing administrative regimes, philosophies, reforms on particular groups of society including mentally ill patients, orphans, women and children and prisoners over a period of 175 years. The cultural landscape of the Cumberland Precinct includes the creative expressions of patients through landscape features, plantings and artwork.

The Female Factory was the first purpose-built colonial establishment designed to provide accommodation and employment for convict women and is the earliest and most intact

convict women's site in Australia. It is the only one in Australia with sufficient surviving evidence to interpret the classification system and is important as Australia's first maternity hospital and first female penitentiary.. Between 1821 and 1848, it housed convict women and provided them with work, education and moral reform. It has become a landmark site with particular significance to former 'Parra girls', along with the Norma Parker Centre, as an International Site of Conscience for past injustices, particularly in the care of women and girls.

The former Roman Catholic Orphanage was established in response to overt sectarianism and cared for male and female orphans in the care of the Sisters of Charity. It was the first purpose-built Catholic orphanage in Australia.

For over 175 years, the former Asylums which contribute to the landscape of the Cumberland Precinct reflect evolving attitudes and government policies to mental health care and reform. The place provided care for patients suffering from mental illness and a quality of life which recognised the importance of social interaction and activity and the importance of routine, a peaceful landscape and good health.

The sites have an important visual, social and moral relationship with Parramatta Gaol and its built fabric and form. Parramatta Goal was until its closure in 2011, the oldest pre-1850s gaol in original use and was a place of incarceration for some of the State's most notorious criminals.

The layout of the sites and their built form provides a framework for understanding and interpreting the impacts of authority, discipline, treatment, therapy, care and routine on the lives of vulnerable and disadvantaged people, including the Stolen Generation and Forgotten Australians, who were committed to these institutions. They are important as markers of public architecture which provoke conflicting responses and memories of experiences and they have the potential to add to our understanding associated with changing social attitudes, particularly in respect of gender, mental illness, institutionalism and incarceration.

The site is important for its associations, over a period of over 175 years with individuals committed to institutions and the administrators and staff responsible for their care and treatment. This includes descendants of women assigned to the Female Factory, patients and staff of the former Lunatic Asylum, Hospital for the Insane, Parramatta Psychiatric Centre and the present Cumberland Hospital; the Sisters of Charity of Australia; relatives and descendants of inmates and staff associated with Parramatta Gaol.

#### 8.0 INTERPRETING SOCIAL SIGNIFICANCE

The Australia ICOMOS Burra Charter 2013 is acknowledged as the principal guiding document for managing places of cultural significance and defines the principles and procedures that should be followed in the conservation of places of heritage significance. One of the aims of the Burra Charter is to interpret the significance of the place. Interpretation provides the tools with which the stories and their meanings can be shared and enriches personal experience and appreciation of heritage sites and places. To be successful, it needs to be informative, relevant and engaging to different audiences and to use methods to reach those audiences.

The unique cultural capital of Parramatta's heritage sites within the Study Area can be unlocked and enhanced by interpretation to maximise the legibility of the sites. Interpretation is a mechanism which has the potential to drive heritage tourism to the area and to build new communities which understand and value the significance of the site.

Using the Heritage Division, NSW Office of Environment and Heritage's framework for developing interpretation, the following table identifies the key themes relevant to the tangible and intangible significance of the sites and locates them to specific places where stories can be told.<sup>25</sup>

#### 8.1 Interpretive Themes

AUSTRALIAN	NSW THEME	INTERPRETATION	SITE
THEME			
1.Tracing the	Environment –	Ancient estuarine	Riverbank,
natural evolution of	naturally evolved	river landscape and	Riparian Corridor
Australia	themes	natural habitat	
2.Peopling Australia	Aboriginal cultures	Traditional land of	Site-wide evidence
	and interactions with	the Aboriginal	of Aboriginal
	other cultures-	people	occupation
	Activities associated		
	with maintaining,		Government farm
	developing,	Contact, intervention	site Cumberland
	experiencing and	and dispossession	Oval
	remembering		
	Aboriginal cultural		
	identities and		
	practices, past and		
	present		

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup>http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/resources/heritagebranch/heritage/NSWHeritageOfficeGuidelinesinfointerpreting.pdf

AUSTRALIAN THEME	NSW THEME	INTERPRETATION	SITE
2.Peopling Australia	Convict - Activities relating to incarceration, transport, reform, accommodation and working during the convict period in NSW (1788-1850) -	Incarceration, transport, reform, accommodation and working and administering the convict system; secondary punishment	Government farm Female Factory Parramatta Gaol
3.Developing local regional and national economies	Agriculture - Activities relating to the cultivation and rearing of plant and animal species, usually for commercial purposes, can include aquaculture	Application of European farming methods in Australian environment; establishment of successful agricultural enterprise at Parramatta	Government Farm and potential archaeology at sites associated with Marden's water mill and water race
3.Developing local regional and national economies	Environment – cultural landscape – cultural landscape-Activities associated with the interactions between humans, human societies and the shaping of their physical surroundings	Government Domain  Landscaped grounds of Cumberland Hospital	Sports and Leisure Precinct  Cumberland Hospital East Campus  Stone walls along Fleet Street
3.Developing local regional and national economies	Exploration Activities associated with making places previously unknown to a cultural group known to them	Landing of Governor Phillip in 1788	Link across to landing site

AUSTRALIAN THEME	NSW THEME	INTERPRETATION	SITE
3.Developing local regional and national economies	Health - Activities associated with preparing and providing medical assistance and/or promoting or maintaining the well- being of human	Care and treatment for the medical well- being of people, including the mentally ill	Female Factory and Cumberland Hospital
3.Developing local regional and national economies	Industry - Activities associated with the manufacture, production and distribution of goods	Workhouse practices e.g. textile production  Reform regimes  Patient therapy	Parramatta Industrial School Cumberland Hospital
4. Settlement- Building settlements, towns and cities	Land tenure- Activities and processes for identifying forms of ownership and occupancy of land and water, both Aboriginal and non- Aboriginal	Administering and alienating Crown land	Parramatta Gaol
4.Building settlements, towns and cities	Towns, suburbs and villages - Activities associated with the provision of accommodation, and particular types of accommodation	Establishment of Parramatta  Landmark buildings	Government farm site as genesis for township Cumberland Precinct and Parramatta Gaol
4.Building settlements, towns and cities	Accommodation - Activities associated with the provision of accommodation, and particular types of accommodation – does not include architectural styles – use the theme of Creative Endeavour for such activities	Convict accommodation  Asylum patient wards  Orphanage and reform school	Female Factory precinct  Lunatic Asylum, Hospital for the Insane and Mental Hospital  Female Factory precinct

AUSTRALIAN THEME	NSW THEME	INTERPRETATION	SITE
5.Labour	Labour - Activities associated with work practises and organised and unorganised labour	Enforced labour Convict labour Prisoner labour Patient labour	Government farm, Female Factory  Parramatta Gaol  Cumberland Hospital
6.Educating	Education - Activities associated with teaching and learning by children and adults, formally and informally.	Education of convict women  Research, education and training in mental health  Reform through education	Female Factory  Cumberland Hospital  Female Factory precinct  Industrial School
7.Governing	Government and administration - Activities associated with the governance of local areas, regions, the State and the nation, and the administration of public programs - includes both principled and corrupt activities -	Government- established agricultural enterprise  Administering public medical programs for the mentally ill  Royal Commissions and Inquiries	Government Farm site  Cumberland Hospital  Female Factory, Asylum and Norma Parker site
7.Governing	Law and order - Maintaining, promoting and implementing criminal and civil law and legal processes.	Incarceration of prisoners, rebellion Incarceration of women Incarceration of women and children Justice Juvenile Justice	Parramatta Gaol  Female Factory Precinct  Female Factory Precinct  All sites  Norma Parker Centre

AUSTRALIAN THEME	NSW THEME	INTERPRETATION	SITE
7.Governing	Welfare - Activities and process associated with the provision of social services by the state or philanthropic	Welfare of female convicts	Female Factory Precinct
		Welfare of mentally ill	Cumberland Hospital
	organisations.	Welfare of criminally insane	Cumberland Hospital, Parramatta Gaol
		Welfare of orphans	Roman Catholic Orphanage
		Welfare of children	Norma Parker Centre
8.Developing Australia's cultural	Creative endeavour -	Public architecture	All sites
life	Activities - associated with the production and performance of literary, artistic, architectural and other imaginative, interpretive or inventive works; and/or associated with the production and expression of cultural phenomena; and/or environments that have inspired such creative activities.	Artwork	Ward 8 murals by Arnold St Clair, Cumberland Hospital
8.Developing Australia's cultural life	Social institutions	Roman Catholic Sisters of Charity	Female Factory Roman Catholic Orphanage
8.Developing Australia's cultural life	Leisure Activities associated with recreation and relaxation -	Recreational activities	Cumberland Hospital facilities e.g. Amusement Hall, Sports Oval
			Sports and Leisure Precinct

AUSTRALIAN THEME	NSW THEME	INTERPRETATION	SITE
8.Developing Australia's cultural life	Religion - Activities associated with particular systems of faith and worship	Sectarianism and segregation	Female Factory  Former Roman  Catholic orphanage
8.Developing Australia's cultural life	Sport - Activities associated with organised recreational and health promotional activities	Horse racing, cricket, motor sports, football, swimming	Sport and Leisure Precinct
9.Marking the phases of life	Persons -Activities of, and associations with, identifiable individuals, families and communal groups	Early colonial entrepreneurs, governors, administrators and practitioners; individuals associated with the administration, supervision, care, treatment of the institutions on the site.	Government Farm Female Factory Precinct, Cumberland Hospital Parramatta Gaol
		Promotion and excellence education, training and participation in sport at a professional and competitive level	Sport and Leisure Precinct Sporting personalities associated with
9 Marking the phases of life	Birth and death Activities associated with the initial stages of human life and the bearing of children, and with the final stages of human life and disposal of the dead	Lying-in and maternity hospital	Female Factory [Morgue]

#### 8.2 Timing and Approach

Interpretation enhances understanding of tangible and intangible attributes which contribute to the significance of places by making them legible. It establishes contextual frameworks around heritage items which are significant and which have values to individuals and groups in the community and identifies the themes, messages and stories by which their significance can be understood.

As the cultural landscape of the PNUR area evolves, the community will be engaged in dialogues about why places are significant and why heritage matters. Interpretation can help community understanding of, and appreciation for, the intangible and tangible values associated with places and contribute to their significance.

Asking the question as to why sites are important – and why some are important and others are not will be a valuable tool during enabling works for future urban renewal and redevelopment. As a legacy outcome from the urban renewal process, interpretation helps new communities to appreciate the heritage values of places and embrace them in their new identities.

The development of a holistic and multi-disciplinary site-wide interpretive strategy which establishes key themes and messages, opportunities and constraints and is integrated into the enabling and redeveloping stages of the site will ensure consistency and continuity across the wide range of stakeholder interests. A strategy which also addresses the future management and display of relics associated with the site should be a pre-requisite moving forward.

While traditional techniques including signage and multi-media have their place, interpretation must not be limited to those. Considerable opportunities will be presented during the enabling and redevelopment of the site to develop imaginative and inspiring ways of communicating the site's heritage significance and values using new infrastructure, extant features, re-use of buildings and new technologies. Interpretation should be embedded in all future development of heritage sites, structures and places arising from rezoning and redevelopment. Throughout the process, there will also be opportunities to promote social significance values and foster community engagement by using culturally appropriate media and program delivery mechanisms including events and activities, public art and mobile devices as well as traditional methods.

#### 8.3 Connectivity and Opportunities with Stakeholders and Partners

The cultural landscape of Parramatta extends beyond the identified sites within the Study Area and connects with other sites of social heritage significance. Building viable heritage tourism through meaningful interpretation will enhance the status of Parramatta as a premier heritage tourist destination and inspire the imagination and ownership of new communities. Interpretation must be accessible and responsive to key sites and a wide

Parramatta North Urban Renewal and Rezoning: Baseline Assessment of Social Significance of Cumberland Precinct and Sports and Leisure Precinct and Interpretive Framework range of audiences and there are opportunities to build on and incorporate into existing interpretive strategies and public art programs across the wider Parramatta area.

The Cumberland Hospital site has strong links to other institutions along the Parramatta River, starting from Cockatoo Island (site of former Biloela Industrial School) and including Callan Park Rozelle, Gladesville Hospital, Yaralla, Abbotsford and the former Female Orphan School, Rydalmere. Riverside settings were part of planned landscapes for the mentally ill and dislocated persons in society. By linking them, the broader story of their treatment and care can be told.

Integration into existing interpretive frameworks and public art strategies developed by Parramatta Council, the National Trust of Australian (NSW), Parramatta Park, and key NSW government agencies and other interested groups is encouraged.

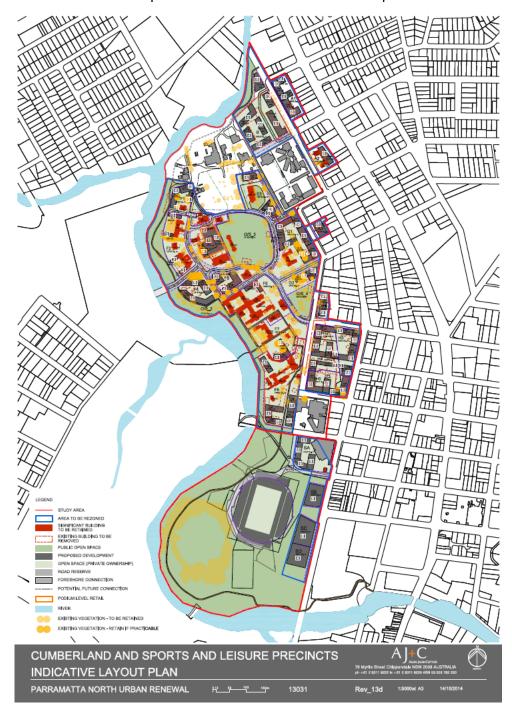
## 9.0 LIKELY IMPACTS ON SOCIAL VALUES ARISING FROM REZONING AND REDEVELOPMENT

Social significance is recognised as one of the values contributing to the significance of heritage places and helps to inform the wider assessments of heritage values of places to meet statutory requirements for future development considerations. Assessment of impacts which arise from future proposals for specific changes to items will need to address likely impacts on the social significance as part of this process. Conservation of items of social heritage significance will need to consider the economic viability and practical realities of finding appropriate and sympathetic new uses for sensitive items.

The impacts on social values which are likely to arise from rezoning and changes of land use can be negative and positive. Negative impacts are likely to be a loss of, or modification to, structures and landscape which relate to human society and its associations with the cultural landscape of the site; and the potential intrusion of new buildings and infrastructure into spaces which diminish human scale and inhibit the ability to interpret the social values associated with the significance. Positive impacts which recognise the social significance of places and what they mean to people can contribute to new community building, place making and identity; and to generating business opportunities and access which support and enhance the heritage values, e.g. heritage tourism.

Impacts arising from rezoning and redevelopment in the Sports and Leisure Precinct which strengthen major sporting use and the introduction of allied retail and commercial uses supporting Parramatta Stadium will enhance the social significance values associated with its long history as public open space and a multi-purpose sporting site, but may impact on the social values associated with Aboriginal land (including Parramatta Park) and the potential of the area to protect archaeological evidence. The social significance of the Parramatta Swimming Centre as a Council and community war memorial project for competitive and recreational swimming may be impacted by any future redevelopment to that site.

Impacts arising from rezoning and redevelopment in the Cumberland Precinct which strengthen, enhance and interpret the social significance through the retention of the built form and landscape of the former Female Factory, Lunatic Asylum, Hospital for the Insane Asylum; Norma Parker Centre and Parramatta Gaol will underline the significance of Parramatta as a major Australian heritage destination. Impacts which contribute to a loss of social values through removal of items of social significance to the community, insensitive adaptation, development and unsympathetic uses are likely to provoke antagonism from the community and reduce the integrity and legibility of the site for interpretation.



**Figure 5** Masterplan for the Cumberland Precinct and Sports and Leisure Precinct in the Parramatta North Urban Renewal site (Source: AJ + C)

## 9.1 Built Heritage Conservation of Items

Conservation of heritage structures provides tangible evidence of the former history of places. It is recognised that some of these heritage places within the PNUR area have strong, conflicting and sensitive values to different groups and this may be reflected in attitudes to the conservation of some built items. However, retention of items which have high and exceptional social significance for their tangible and intangible social values is important to the community.

Buildings, sites and structures identified as having exceptional and high social significance to the community should be retained, conserved, adapted to a compatible and sympathetic new use which respects the tangible and intangible attributes which contribute to their significance and that significance interpreted in a meaningful and sympathetic manner.

Buildings, sites and structures identified as having lower levels of significance may be significant for other heritage values and therefore require broader assessment of heritage significance so that appropriate determinations can be made for retention, adaptation, modification for new uses or demolition.

## 9.2 Adaptive Re-use

Adaptive re-use of significant buildings, sites and spaces in the PNUR area would allow the retention and conservation of items which significantly contribute to its heritage values and will enhance the appreciation for, and understanding of, the uniqueness of the place. It has been demonstrated that individuals and groups have strong, conflicting and sensitive associations with places in the area. These values may be diminished if new uses are found for these places which are incompatible with the social values of places and trivialise their significance. Adaptive re-use should be consistent with the principles and guidelines prepared by the Heritage Council of NSW and the Australian Institute of Architects NSW Chapter, 2008.

Adaptive re-use of buildings, sites and structures identified as having exceptional and high social significance should be compatible with the nature and significance of the place and its values.

Adaptive re-use should avoid changes to any form or fabric which detracts from the social significance of buildings, sites and spaces and/or their ability to interpret social significance.

#### 9.3 Alterations and additions

It is likely that in retaining heritage buildings, sites and structures in the PNUR area, alterations and additions will be required to ensure that the heritage items remain viable and functional. Alterations and additions will be guided by wider heritage considerations but:

Alterations and additions which diminish the social significance of buildings, sites and spaces or which impact on the ability of those buildings, sites and spaces to interpret social significance should be avoided. Where it is impossible, alterations and additions should not destroy original fabric significant to social significance, be reversible and not compromise the integrity of spaces or their ability to interpret exceptional and high social significance.

#### 9.4 Demolition

Demolition of buildings and sites or loss of spaces identified as having exceptional or high social significance will depend on their wider heritage significance. However, loss of such items may affect the integrity of the PNUR area, the legibility of the place to interpret that significance and may be unacceptable to the community.

Demolition of items of identified exceptional and high significance which have exceptional and high social heritage significance should not be demolished.

The removal of items of moderate, low and intrusive significance may enhance the ability of the cultural landscape to reveal and interpret tangible and intangible values associated with significant features.

Interpretation may be required to make sense of demolished elements which are visually intrusive and have little heritage value but contribute to the evolution of the site and have social values to individuals and groups.

## 9.5 New development

Urban renewal will necessarily generate redevelopment. To ensure that social significance values are respected in this process the following likely impacts are identified:

New development which impacts on buildings, sites and spaces identified as having exceptional and high social significance should be assessed for its intrusion into these areas, particularly where it affects the social values on specific items which have been identified.

# 9.6 Opportunities which can Mitigate against Future Impacts on Social Significance Values

#### 9.6.1 Sports and Leisure Precinct

Retain open space parkland for its acknowledged significance to Aboriginal people and for the potential archaeological evidence it may contain.

Retain the sporting associations with Cumberland Oval and Old Kings School Oval.

Explore opportunities to upgrade the Parramatta Swimming Centre as an enlarged community asset and aquatic centre and interpret the social history in a new facility.

#### 9.6.2 Cumberland Precinct

Create public access along the riverbank, subject to environmental and archaeological constraints, to interpret the Aboriginal significance, and the features significant to the Female Factory and Asylum, particularly those associated with former working practices of inmates.

Investigate sites of archaeological significance to further the understanding of the social significance of those sites and their use in the context of early European settlement in Parramatta.

Retain the heritage fabric and spaces which interpret the social significance of the social organisation and regimes of the former Female Factory and 1838 cell block extension.

Retain the heritage fabric and spaces which interpret the social values associated with changing staff and patient regimes through the evolution of Cumberland Hospital through its Asylum phases.

Retain the heritage fabric and spaces which interpret the social significance associated with the care and management of former residents in institutions which occupied the sites of the Norma Parker Centre, particularly its use as the Roman Catholic Orphanage and the Parramatta Girls Home.

#### 9.6.3 Parramatta Gaol

Retain the heritage fabric which interprets the social significance of the social organisation, and the inmates and staff regimes associated with the incarceration of prisoners through the evolution of the Gaol from 1840s.

#### 10.0 SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

## 10.1 Summary

The two identified precincts which comprise the PNUR area are significant for their social values which contribute to the overall heritage significance of the site. They both contain evidence and have the potential to reveal further information about Aboriginal occupation and early European settlement. The Sports and Leisure Precinct is important to the sporting community of western Sydney and NSW; the Cumberland Precinct is important for the information it reveals as a site of conscience, memory and healing to people whose lives, and those of their forebears, were affected by their intersection, through institutionalisation, with regimes of reform, incarceration, punishment, control, care and treatment.

Social values were identified through examination of the social history of the site and preliminary community consultation. They comprise tangible evidence associated with heritage fabric, structures and spaces which in turn provoke conflicting emotional responses. This intangible evidence has been identified by individuals and groups as significant in the process of understanding, accepting, sharing and embracing their past history to regain their respect, dignity and identity in an environment of community acceptance and compassion.

#### 10.2 Recommendations

#### 10.2.1 General recommendations

#### Recommendation G1: Social values and identity

That the social values associated with the heritage significance of the Precincts in the PNUR area be recognised as unique to the identity of the land proposed for urban renewal and as having significance to particular groups and communities;

## Recommendation G2: Social values and rezoning/redevelopment

That the social values which contribute to the significance of the PNUR area are respected and reflected in the rezoning process by ensuring future uses of the site are compatible with those social values and are not diminished by redevelopment associated with urban renewal;

#### **Recommendation G3: Further investigation**

That further processes (including research, investigation, consultation and oral history recording) which help to further reveal, expand and enhance our understanding of the tangible and intangible social values are implemented in the next phase of urban renewal for this site;

#### **Recommendation G4: Limits of tolerance**

That the limits of tolerance to loss, change and alteration which affect the understanding and protection of social values and which are embedded in the fabric of sites, structures and in open spaces across the PNUR area are identified in the process of urban renewal and appropriate mitigation strategies which support and facilitate outcomes of urban renewal are implemented;

### **Recommendation G5: Interpretation strategy**

That a strategy which guides the interpretation of the social values and significance of the PNUR area be undertaken to inform future redevelopment (including new infrastructure and the retention and/or renewal of heritage sites, structures and spaces); and that during the urban renewal process there are mechanisms for agencies and community groups to facilitate programs which enhance access to, appreciation of and understanding of, the social significance of the area during its redevelopment; and

#### **Recommendation G6:**

That the outcome of a site-wide interpretation strategy inform opportunities created by urban renewal will provide accessible, relevant and imaginative methods to convey intangible and tangible social values to a wide and diverse audience and contribute to the identity of the PNUR area as a driver and an exemplar for community building across in a sensitive heritage, business local and international heritage tourism.

#### 10.2.2 Specific recommendations

#### **Recommendations S1: Sports and Leisure Precinct**

Respect the social values of this land to Aboriginal people and recognise the significance of this site and is associations with Parramatta Park and World Heritage values.

Explore opportunities to add to our understanding of the importance of early European settlement and agriculture which can contribute to the heritage significance of Parramatta.

Retain the association of sporting interests in this Precinct in ways which enhance the public open space and access to facilities. Consider opportunities to review the amenity of the Parramatta War Memorial Swimming Pool in its current location.

#### **Recommendations S2: Cumberland Precinct**

#### **Female Factory**

Respect the exceptional social significance of this site in the context of Australian social history since 1818 and the retain remaining evidence of the first purpose-built institution for the welfare of convict women, including built heritage and spaces which interpret the administrative, living, working and punitive conditions; the hierarchical classification system, and associations with former individuals (e.g. the clock).

Retain, conserve and restore the buildings for a viable future use which respects the human and built scale of the buildings and is appropriate to the tangible and intangible social significance of the buildings.

Avoid intrusions, unsympathetic built forms and new uses which inhibit the ability of the site to interpret key social values.

#### **Lunatic Asylum**

Respect the tangible and intangible evidence of buildings, structure, landscape features and settings (including buildings adapted and/or repurposed from the former Female Factory)which interpret the patient segregation, classifications and moral treatment philosophies of the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century. Retain, conserve and re-use items in ways which do not detract from their social significance and enhance their ability to interpret it. Avoid intrusions which detract from the human scale and open character of the setting.

Retain features associated with communal activities for staff and patients including the Amusement Hall, cricket ground and shelter shed for community use.

Protect evidence of patient labour in landscape features, including the ha ha, roads, kerbs, fountains and plantings.

Retain and conserve the work of Arnold St Clair.

#### **Norma Parker Centre**

Respect the sanctity of this site for its tangible and intangible values and its significance to former residents and retain its intactness. Retain, conserve and restore the former Roman Orphanage buildings and Bethel House as a site which acknowledges the members of the Stolen Generation, Forgotten Australians and victims of child abuse and its recognition as an international Site of Conscience.

#### **Parramatta Gaol**

Consider new uses which retain and conserve significant features relating to the management and classification of prisoners and which interpret the social values of the place.

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## **12.0 APPENDICES**

## **APPENDIX 1: HISTORICAL IMAGES**

Images which contribute to understanding social values associated with the Sports and leisure Precinct and the Cumberland Precinct. Images have been sourced for research purposes associated with the preparation of this study. Any further use, including promotion, public display and public presentations will require the permission for copyright and reproduction from the sources identified with each image.

#### **SPORTS AND LEISURE PRECINCT IMAGES**

## Old Kings Oval, n.d.

Doug Walters played for Cumberland Cricket Club (now Parramatta District Cricket Club) at Old Kings Oval

#### Source:

http://www.parrapark.com.au/things -to-do/play-cricket-1/parramattadistrict-cricket-club accessed on 30 August 2014



Cricket team

## **Cumberland Oval Speedway, 1956**

British racing legend Stirling Moss driving a demonstration lap in a Myers WM Cooper around Cumberland Oval Speedway.

#### Source:

http://aussieroadracing.homestead.c om/Liebrand1.html; accessed on 30 August 2014



## **Cumberland Oval, c1955s**

Students of Parramatta High School marched in their house teams through Parramatta to Cumberland Oval for their annual sports carnival.

#### Source:

Ray Osmotherley <a href="http://faxmentis.org/html/1955-athletics-pg3.html">http://faxmentis.org/html/1955-athletics-pg3.html</a> accessed on 30 August 2014



Sports day at Cumberland Oval

#### **Cumberland Oval, 1953**

Match between Manly Sea Eagles and the Parramatta Eels at Cumberland Oval 27 June 1953

#### Source:

Image sourced at http:/www.silvertails.net/forumThrea d-Game-Day-Manly-v-Parramatta Round accessed on 30 August 2014

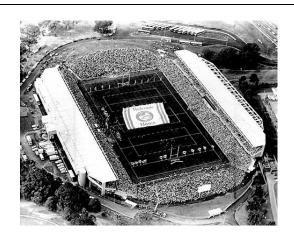


## Parramatta Stadium, 1986

First game at Parramatta Stadium after its opening in March 1986 by Queen Elizabeth II

#### Source:

http://www.austadiums.com/forum/ viewtopic.<u>accessed on 30 August</u> 2014



## Parramatta Swimming Centre, 1959

Plaque commemorating the opening of the Parramatta War Memorial Swimming Pool, 1956

#### Source

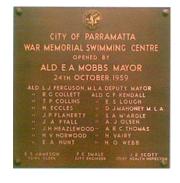
http://www.warmemorialsregister.ns w.gov.au accessed on 30 August 2014

## Parramatta Swimming Centre, c2012

Parramatta Swimming Centre following the 2008 refurbishment

#### Source:

Sport and Recreation, Parramatta City
Council accessed 30 August 2014
<a href="http://www.parracity.nsw.gov.au/pla">http://www.parracity.nsw.gov.au/pla</a>
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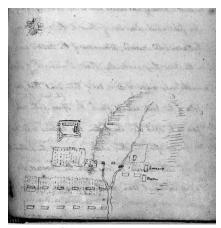
#### **CUMBERLAND PRECINCT IMAGES**

#### **Government Farm 1790**

Phillip Gidley King records the organisation of the farm and sketches the arrangement of structures and observations of convict behaviour.

#### Source:

Philip Gidley King, 'Remarks & Journal kept on the Expedition to form a Colony...' with additional information, 1786-December 1790; compiled 1790, ML, SLNSW C 115, p 391p. 384-387 accessed on 30 August 2014



Sketch of the Government Far, 1790

## **Government Farm, 1791**

Watling's drawing reveals information about the social organisation of the farm, its connections across the river to military camp and the relationship of the dwelling to the fields and farm structures and its connections.

## Source:

Watling drawing No 18, British Museum of Natural History



A View of Government Farm at Rose Hill 1791

## Marsden's Mill, 1820

Lycett's watercolour reveals information about the social organisation of Reverend Marsden's farm and the relationship of his mill to the cottage

#### Source:

State Library of NSW PX\*D 41, f.1. Digital reference SLV [a1120001]



Mr Marsden's Mill N S Wales near Parramatta by Joseph Lycett, 1820

## Female Factory, c1826

This romantic view of the Female Factory promotes Governor Macquarie's 'good work' but is diametrically opposed to the reality of the conditions experienced by the resident convict women.

#### Source:

National Library of Australia Rex Nan Kivell Collection NK12/47.



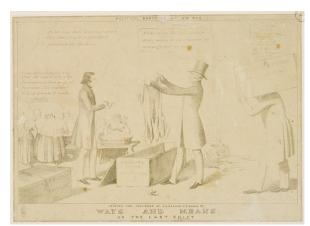
Female penitentiary or factory Paramata [sic] N S Wales by Augustus Earle, c1826

## Female Factory, 1844

In this political cartoon (one of only 4 known images of convict women), female convicts are depicted at laundry work against the sarcasm of the male references to the quality of dirty laundry. 'Parramatta cloth' woven at the Factory was in high demand in the colony.

## Source:

Political cartoon, published in the 1840s by Raphael Clint & Edward Barlow publisher DL PXX 66



Ways and Means or the Last Shift, cartoon featuring Parramatta Female Factory, 1844 by Edward. Winstanley

Female Factory, mid 19<sup>th</sup> centuryIn 1839, a 3-storey block was built to house women convicted of criminal offences. They could be imprisoned in solitary confinement and fed only bread and water for no more than 21 days. Following a damning report in 1840, this form of punishment was abolished.

#### Source:

Society of Genealogists SAG 5/6404



#### Lunatic Asylum,c1860

This tranquil view underlines the siting of the buildings on their riverfront setting, a feature of other government asylums between Parramatta and Sydney and designed to enhance calmness.

#### Source:

National Library of Australia NLA8530395



Lunatick [sic] Asylum c1860 by F C Terry

#### Lunatic Asylum, 1861

In Terry's view, he gives an impression of light, clean, airy and spacious dormitory ward accommodation.

#### Source

SLNSW [ML178.05/2] in The Australian Home Companion and Band of Hope Journal, 1 June 1861, p3



Men's dormitory in the Parramatta Lunatic Asylum, 1861 by F C Terry

## Lunatic Asylum, before 1883

In 1883, the main barrack building of the Female Factory was demolished and the present Ward 1 erected. The clock was retained and installed in the tower at the end of Ward 1.

#### Source:

Society of Australian Genealogists SAG 5/6149





## Parramatta Hospital for the Insane, c 78-1884

The emu is likely to be one of the native animals from the Deer Park in Parramatta Park who was well known and a popular visitor to the wards where he entertained patients.

#### Source:

Parramatta Council, Local Studies Collection LSOP 60



The emu entertaining patients

## Parramatta Hospital for the Insane, c1888

The interior of the Dining Room is show here lined with corrugated iron and the walls hung with framed pictures. Women are seated on benches at the tables.

#### Source:

Parramatta Council, Local Studies Collection LSOP 162



Patients in the Dining Room

## Parramatta Hospital for the Insane, c1888

Ward 3, fitted dormitory style, is decorated with a profusion of greenery and flowers.

#### Source:

Parramatta Council, Local Studies Collection LSOP 59



Interior of Ward 3

## Parramatta Hospital for the Insane, c1890

The female patients are shown here mingling in groups outside. They were issued with cotton frocks, white aprons and sun bonnets.

#### Source:

Parramatta Council, Local Studies Collection LSOP 160



Female patients at Parramatta Hospital for the Insane, c1890.

## Parramatta Hospital for the Insane, 1908

Staff in fancy dress costume, 1908

#### Source:

Parramatta Council, Local Studies Collection LSOP 70



Staff in fancy dress costume

#### Parramatta Mental Hospital, 1972

The complex mural in Ward 8 was painted by Arnold St Clair in Ward 8 in 1972, during his time as a patient in treatment for alcohol addiction.

### Source:

Photo: Christopher Betteridge, August 2014



Detail of a mural painted by patient, Arnold St Clair, 1972

## Roman Catholic Orphanage, 1870-1880

The 3-storey building was originally built to house 150 children, but it was frequently overcrowded with almost double that number.

#### Source:

Parramatta Council, Local Studies Collection LSOP 831



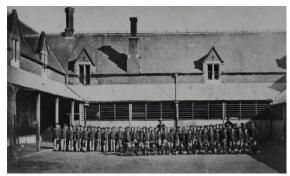
Roman Catholic Orphanage

## Roman Catholic Orphanage, c1870

The gold rush saw a huge rise in the number of orphans requiring care. A two-storey wing was added to the orphanage in the 1850s to provide more accommodation.

#### Source:

Parramatta Council, Local Studies Collection LSOP 650



Boys at the Roman Catholic Orphanage

## Parramatta Girls Home, 1939

It is estimated that up to 30,000 girls passed through this institution between 1887-1974

#### Source:

Visit by Mrs May to Girl's Institution, Parramatta. Sam Hood 1939 SLNSW NCY43/265



## Parramatta Girls Home, c1960s

A classification system prevailed at the Home and while girls were required to perform menial tasks, some were given the opportunity for an education.

#### Source:

http://forgottenaustralianshistory.go v.au/photos.html, accessed on 30 August 2014



Schoolroom, Parramatta Girls Home

## Parramatta Girls Home, c1960s

Parra girls recall with horror, the indignity and brutality of routine medical examinations and sexual abuse.

#### Source:

http://forgottenaustralianshistory.gov.au/photos.html, accessed on 30August 2014



Examination Room, Parramatta Girls Home

#### Parramatta Girls Home, c1960s

The 'dungeon' below the main building was feared by the girls who were expected to shower without the simple right to modesty.

#### Source:

Department of Community Services, NSW images sourced at <a href="http://www.theinconvenientchild.co">http://www.theinconvenientchild.co</a> <a href="mailto:m/parramatta.html">m/parramatta.html</a> accessed 30 August 2014



The infamous dungeon shower room

## Parramatta Girls Home, c1960s

Accommodation in the Girls Home was dormitory style and girls were responsible to all aspects of domestic work in the wards. Many recall the discomfort of scrubbing concrete floors and the lifelong physical effect that this, and other duties, they have suffered.

#### Source:

Department of Community Services, NSW images sourced at <a href="http://www.theinconvenientchild.co">http://www.theinconvenientchild.co</a> <a href="mailto:m/parramatta.html">m/parramatta.html</a> accessed 30 August 2014



Dormitory, Parramatta Girls Home

## Norma Parker Centre, 1983

The bell in the covered walkway symbolises the rigidity of the routine imposed on the occupants of the Norma Parker Centre.

#### Source:

SLNSWGPO 4-14138 (left), 4-14231



Covered walkway, Norma Parker Centre

## Norma Parker Centre, 1983

Girls undertook sewing as a commercial activity for the Centre, as part of the prison industry.

#### Source:

SLNW GPO 3-08093



Sewing room, Norma Parker Centre

## Norma Parker Centre, 1983

A homely environment was one of the initiatives of the Centre in its attempt to use programs which encouraged reform.

#### Source:

SLNW GPO 4-14168



bedroom, Norma Parker Centre

#### Norma Parker Centre, 1983

Communal activities fostered by staff included games, sports and relaxation.

#### Source:

SLNSW GPO 4-14170



TV room, Norma Parker Centre

## Female Factory Precinct Project, 2014

Parramatta's Riverside Theatre held a sell-out season of Alana Valentine's play, 'Parra Girls'. It explored, through humour, pathos, song and story-telling, the different emotional responses of 8 former 'Parra girls' returning to the Girls Home for a reunion.

#### Source:

Riverside Archives
<a href="http://riversideparramatta.com.au/sh">http://riversideparramatta.com.au/sh</a>
ow/parramatta-girls



Actors in the play, 'Parra Girls'

## Parramatta Gaol, c1911

The Gaol expanded to cope with increasing numbers of admissions during the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries.

#### Source

Parramatta Heritage Centre LSOP 788



Parramatta Goal

#### Parramatta Gaol, c1913

The prison farm not only served the Gaol, but provided fruit, vegetable and livestock for sale.

#### Source

NLA 6300099



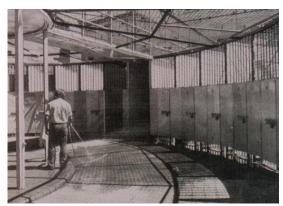
Parramatta Gaol Farm,

### Parramatta Gaol, c1970s

The Circle' inside Parramatta Jail was used to house intractable prisoners during the 1960s and 1970s. Inmates Bernie Matthews and Mick Anderson tried to escape from this section of the prison on 8 December 1971 by attacking three prison guards and taking their keys. The escape attempt was thwarted after tower guards who raised the alarm. The Circle was dismantled during the 1990s

#### Source

http://studentweb.usq.edu.au/home/d9811076/photogallery/nswjails.htmlaccessed 30 August 2014



The infamous 'circle' cells

## Parramatta Gaol, c1981

A secure purpose-built commercial laundry was built as a prison industry in 1976 on the former prison farm land.

#### Source

Parramatta Linen Service, 1981. SLNSW GPO), GPO 3-14553



Supervised laundry work in the Parramatta Linen Service

## Parramatta Gaol, 2009

The high forbidding walls are important in the streetscape of north Parramatta.

#### Source

Photo J W C Adam image sourced at <a href="http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Parramatta Correctional Centre">http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Parramatta Correctional Centre</a> accessed on 30 August 2014



Parramatta Gaol, 2009

## Parramatta Gaol, 2014

Inside, the spartan conditions bring home the reality of the loss of social privileges which come with incarceration.

#### Source

Photo: Christopher Betteridge, August 2014



## APPENDIX 2: LEVELS OF SOCIAL HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE MAPPING OF SITES

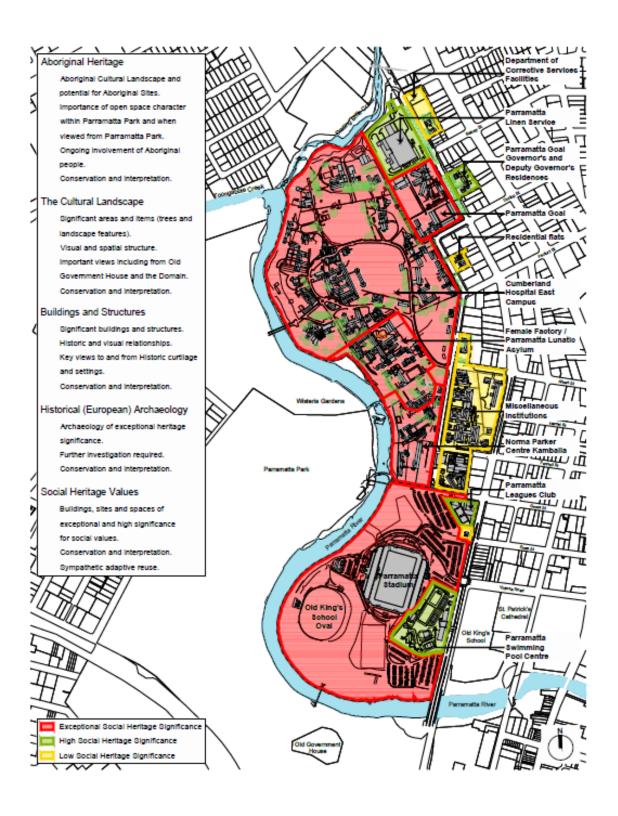
This map identifies levels of social heritage significance within the Sports and Leisure Precinct and the Cumberland Precinct

## **Sports and Leisure Precinct**

The site for its Aboriginal social values	Exceptional
The site of Government Farm for its potential to reveal information and evidence about the organisation and operation of the colony's first successful agricultural enterprise	Exception
Old Kings Oval and Cumberland Oval as part of the former Government Domain from 1810 and Parramatta Park as public recreational space from 1858 and for its associations with a range of sporting activities since 1847	Exceptional
Parramatta Swimming Centre as a Council and community war memorial project for competitive and recreational swimming	High
Parramatta Leagues Club has high social values for members and supporters of the Parramatta Eels but is not included as part of the rezoning.	High

## **Cumberland Hospital**

The Female Factory was the first purpose-built institution for female convicts and as a place of industry, incarceration and reform.	Exceptional
The Lunatic Asylum (and its expanded facilities and landscape) demonstrate the application and impact of moral reform as a philosophical approach to the welfare of mentally ill	Exceptional
The Norma Parker Centre has been associated with the welfare of children and youth (including Stolen Generation and Forgotten Australians) who were dislocated from family environments and subjected to regimes of care dictated by physical and mental abuse, sectarianism and government policies which current society considers unacceptable.	



#### **APPENDIX 3: INTERPRETIVE THEMES**

This map identifies the locations of sites of social heritage significance and matches them to major interpretive themes.

