

ADVOCACY – Landscapes at Risk list – ‘Watch & Action’ List – August 2019



Above: rousing 6/5/18 Hobart May Day public rally v Mt. Wellington Cable Car proposal: 5/2018 (pic: Ted Mead) (*Tas Times* 10/5/18 – Richard Flanagan – who spoke, as well as Bob Brown).

ACT/Monaro/Riverina Branch

WATCH

- **Australian War Memorial memorial grounds** – at the branch’s instigation, the AWM was prompted into preparing a landscape history of these, including designed landscape terracing, tree and shrub plantings, from earliest 1930s plans by architect Emil Sodersten.
- **National Capital Authority – Parliamentary Triangle Tree Master Plan** – public consultation re preferred species, future trees for this core, central part of Griffin’s Canberra plan (including most national institutions, their immediate settings, the centre of Lake Burley Griffin, Anzac Avenue vista to Parliament House, 2 main axial bridges and avenues (Kings, Commonwealth). ACT/M/R branch is encouraging members to engage with the public consultation on this matter.
- **Northbourne Avenue**, Canberra – installation of tram lines, removal of 1950s avenue of brittle gums (*Eucalyptus mannifera ssp. mannifera* and Lavelle’s crab apples (*Crataegus x lavellei*) and need for replacement plantings.
- **Haig Park master plan**, Turner & Braddon (inner Canberra north), an informal shelter belt 1km from Civic, dating to 1921-3 and Charles Weston’s plantings as a windbreak for the young city. Heritage listed. Current proposal to turn it into another city garden with additional recreational facilities, formed paths, hard edges, paving, structures. Branch submission made – it seems a foregone conclusion is at play (Ramsay/Claoue-Long, AGH 30(3), 1/2019).

ACTION

- **Nature in the City inquiry:** ACT Legislative Assembly – the branch representatives appeared before a public hearing of a Committee of Inquiry, presenting concerns about piecemeal development, lack of public

commemoration of landscape designers, loss of green space, profit-driven development. Branch put in a plea that the government acknowledges the Urban Forest as crucial to nature in the city by listing trees in streets, parks, reserves as public assets, maintained and funded by Treasury budget provision.

- **Montague Island Nature Reserve – Kitchen Garden** – Branch paid for research report on the lighthouse-keeper's vegetable garden, which included a plan for its reinstatement. Branch volunteers assisted in reinstating it. Branch is now corresponding with managers NSW National Parks & Wildlife Service to ensure the garden is recognised for its heritage values, while the NPWS renominates the nature reserve for 'Green List of Protected Areas' status.
- **Lake Burley Griffin and lakeshore landscape** – industrial and commercial developments in fringe lands, e.g. West Basin (near New Action/the CBD – rezoning for apartment blocks) lack of ACT / Federal coordination, lack of master plan, lack of public consultation, stalling / deferral of National Heritage List nomination assessment. West Basin public open space threatened by an urban expansion proposal. This is a current active threat, plan for development is approved and there is a lack of a heritage listing or heritage consideration. Petition was presented to the ACT Legislative Assembly in 12/2017. ICOMOS international letter to relevant Ministers is at. <http://australia.icomos.org/e-news/australia-icomos-e-mail-news-no-815/#4>

Queensland Branch

WATCH

- **Memorial Ave, Emu Vale – Warwick**, of conifers. Qld. Heritage Register nomination.
- **Memorial Avenue, Tannymorel** – of plane trees. Qld. Heritage Register nomination.
- **Hoop Pine Ave, Imbil Forest Station** – site is barely maintained, budget? Its future is uncertain.
- **Queensland Performing Art Centre and Queensland Art Gallery, South Bank, Brisbane** - designed landscape around the buildings was the work of landscape architect and AGHS member, Barbara van den Broek, 1932-2001.
- **Thomas Park [Bougainvillea Gardens], Indooroopilly** – [Plants worthy of attention in Thomas Park](#)

ACTION

- **Laurel Bank Park, Toowoomba** – Qld. Branch nomination for Queensland Heritage Register listing prepared by Tania Metcher, with assistance from John Taylor, Wendy Lees, Roger Spencer and Stuart Read on its rare oak and *Lithocarpus* trees. Nomination lodged: AGHS awaits its outcome.

South Australian Branch

WATCH

- **Adelaide Parklands** – pressure for active recreation (Grand Prix, events, income-generation) at expense of balanced management and passive recreation, risk to National Heritage List values and character. 12/2018 Stadium Management Authority proposal (with state funding) for a boutique hotel at Adelaide Oval (in the Parklands) despite City Council objection and submission to Premier. Current Parklands Event Management Plan is skewed towards active profit-making. Branch is monitoring situation.
- **Adelaide's Urban Squares (4 + 1: North Adelaide)**, same issue with Parklands Event Management Plan which actively promotes events and profit-taking off public open space. Recent draft Whitmore Square master plan favours profit-based events, giving conflicting descriptions of their scale: small-medium (to 7500 people) or medium-major (over 10,000), until 1am, any day/night, selling alcohol from 11am. This risks damage to the square's fabric and integrity (it cannot support 10,000 people) and risks privatising key historic urban (and garden) spaces from non-paying citizens' passive recreation.
- **Mitcham Railway Station Garden** – Branch discussions with Council and Friends group re significant trees protection.
- **Grove Hill** – private garden, site of former nursery – Branch liaison re assistance to owners.
- **Claremont House, Urrbrae** – Branch concerned at risk to the garden.
- **Charles Sturt Memorial Museum, Grange** – committee advising volunteers on restoring garden.

ACTION

- [Urrbrae TAFE closure](#) – state government announced plans to close TAFE and Horticulture, Environment & Conservation programs in unique ‘gardened’ grounds of High School, part of a precinct including the Waite Institute and Waite Arboretum. Campaign and petition underway. Branch submissions to Ministers for Education and Primary Industries – sign up on Facebook – search ‘save Urrbrae Tafe’;
 - [Martindale Hall, Clare Valley](#) – one of Australia’s iconic 19th century mansions and estates. Featured in classic 1970s film, ‘Picnic at Hanging Rock’. Uncertain future as SA government considers selling it to private investors. National Trust (SA) campaigning to prevent its conversion into an exclusive luxury resort. The Trust has announced its own proposal to preserve the Hall and promote its heritage and ensure it remains in public hands, accessible to all. (Ref Page 6) [SA Government CMP](#)
 - [Mount Lofty Ranges - National Heritage Listing](#) and UNESCO World Heritage listing for the “working agrarian landscapes” -- vineyards and farmland in the Adelaide Hills, Barossa Valley and McLaren Vale. Urbanisation, fragmented management, infrastructure upgrades, uncoordinated management by various parties (though improving).
 - [Adelaide Botanic Garden](#) – lack of state heritage listing beyond its selected structures. In contrast, Adelaide’s Parklands are listed on the National Heritage List and holistically managed. [Heritage Database](#)
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Southern Highlands Branch

WATCH

- [Retford Park, East Bowral](#), impact of subdivision of grounds on its landscape character, budget and guidance, consistency of management (retaining the excellent garden staff: one has left) with new ownership of the National Trust (NSW). Still lacks State Heritage Register listing, despite a good conservation management plan noting state-significance prepared with that understanding (SHR). Proposed regional art gallery for the estate’s stables – awaits funding and approval.
- [Invergowrie, Exeter](#) – Paul Sorensen garden’s future – property has been long on the real estate market, continuity of garden staff, care. Recent auction of the contents of house. For sale over a long time.
- [Gleniffer Brae, Keiraville](#) – University of Wollongong proposal for Arts Faculty use – infill buildings, car parking impacts on the remaining Paul Sorensen garden and its care. Risk of fragmented management of site with adjacent (1960s+) Wollongong Botanic Garden.
- [Hillview, Sutton Forest](#) – erratic garden maintenance, fragmented estate management, income / sustainability of hotel use. Seeming permanency of ‘temporary’ sculpture park use. [Domain news item](#)
- [Milton Park, East Bowral](#) – fragmented ownership of house/hotel and estate. Insufficient grounds budget. In 2016 Council refused proposed adjacent housing expansion affecting views into and out of the estate. NSW Heritage Council recently recommended part of the site for State Heritage Register listing.
- [Southern Highlands Winery](#) - Development application re-submitted to Wingecarribee Shire Council for Tuscan style resort (cnr. Oldbury Road/Illawarra Highway, opposite Hillview, Sutton Forest), inappropriate in this landscape. Branch submissions on original and re-submitted proposal. Council did not support it and the applicant has withdrawn it (for now). Council asked applicant to do community consultation.

ACTION

- [Rural Tourism Policy](#) – the branch made a submission on this, requesting it exclude land in the conservation area of Berrima village.
- [Berrima Remembrance Driveway plantations \(now ‘Berrima Remembrance Grove’\)](#)- under stewardship of the Remembrance Driveway Committee (RDC), a proposal to remove 1956 memorial plaques from the 15-hectare site planted by Paul Sorensen, Claude and Isobel Crowe under then Vice President of the RDC, Sir Cecil Hoskins. Plantings situated at the southern entrance to Berrima (Old Hume Highway). Site neglected since 1997. The main concern is who pays maintenance costs of c\$3000 per year. A 5 March 2019 community meeting was called by the Branch at Council Chambers to find a solution to retain integrity of plantings and plaques. Colleen Morris presented on landscape, Charlotte Webb on plantings and AGHS on original aims and objectives. Berrima Residents Association (BRA) has prepared an MOU with the Remembrance Driveway Committee to manage the site over 25 years and pay cost of mowing. The RDC are considering this MOU. The Branch has offered to pay for a landscape assessment to inform a maintenance plan. Council and RDC are considering these offers. Hume Coal who own a large area of

Remembrance Drive are considering the BRA proposal. The Branch are recording the plantations, in preparation for a conservation management plan, with BRA. An onsite inspection done and working bees to remove rubbish.

- **Berrima Village in its Rural Setting** – Council approved a planning proposal to rezone Berrima Heritage Conservation Area, allowing smaller lot infill in otherwise large-lot rural and bushland setting of the town. This reverses good planning it has adhered to since the 1960s. Branch objections along with many from the community. A local community group has nominated the village for State Heritage Register listing. Its prioritisation and progress will be worth watching – Haberfield garden suburb has been nominated for 10 years; Morpeth village (Hunter) is stalled by local politics.
- **Station Street upgrade, Bowral** – proposed town bypass project requires removal of 159 trees: an 1897 avenue of pin oaks (at north entry), a collection of old, 19 very rare *Camellia japonica* cv's at railway station car park planted c1930s/40s by nurseryman Claude Crowe and 1940s elms planted by Girl Guides as part of Remembrance Drive. The branch attended community meetings run by Wingecarribee Shire Council, joined group 'Highlands Matters' to get the decision deferred, met State MP, petition (2000+) to Premier. Council voted to proceed regardless. Branch is lobbying State MP and Minister for Local Government. April 2019 National Trust classification of Station Street pin oak avenue & Camellia plantings is a helpful move. Branch members have taken cuttings off the camellias and got a good strike rate. Once potted up safe venues for growing these on will be found. The Branch has made **Harper's Mansion, Berrima** a donation to purchase botanical name plates for 15 original successfully propagated plants to make a heritage Camellia walk. The Branch has proposed to **Retford Park, Berrima** to house a second heritage Camellia collection.
- **Boral Cement Works, New Berrima** – Paul Sorensen-designed rare industrial landscaping, erosion of scheme (tube stock native planting infill, supposedly (nothing yet done) to be removed). Lack of recognition of Sorensen design / character, company archival research / Boral website history makes no acknowledgement of it, lack of integrated management. The branch is working with Boral to remedy this, and commissioned a tree survey and Management Plan, both completed and handed over in May 2019 with local press coverage. This gives Boral's garden team a seasonal maintenance schedule. The branch is on the working group developing a master plan for a native vegetation plantation in this industrial zone. Boral are stalling over the budget, but have started mowing and cleaning up the site. See the next item for the threat posed by proposed rail branch line extension to service (adjacent) Hume Coal Project.
- **Sutton Forest Cultural Landscape** v Hume Coal Mining proposal – many heritage properties with gardens are potentially adversely affected, by bore water draw-down, likely subsidence, visual and physical impacts (air and noise pollution). State Significant project for large-scale underground coal mine (over 22 years), surface infrastructure includes rail line extension (cutting into Sorensen plantings outside East Berrima cement works, new rail bridge over Old Hume Highway, existing Hume Highway and huge spill dumps for 25 years etc on *Mereworth*, Sutton Forest. Branch has nominated SFCL for local heritage listing. The Branch made a submission and attended public hearings of the Independent Planning Commission and a site inspection. We await the outcome.
- **Mereworth, Sutton Forest** – Sorensen 1960s designed garden – issues of management by new owner Hume Coal, use for corporate meetings and as a farm, major threat from proposed 25 years' worth of mass deposition of mining fill, lake/tailings pond and other surface infrastructure due close to rail corridor at East Berrima Cement works (spur line), possible threat to water supply. Branch has made an objection. The Branch awaits the Independent Planning Commission's recommendations.

Sydney and Northern NSW Branch

WATCH

- [Mt. Gilead, Appin](#) – lack of State Heritage Register listing (recommended in 2000), advertised 5-6/2018 of proposed (core of farm) curtilage. Likely reduced curtilage in a soon suburban landscape 'setting' rezoned for up to 10,000 houses over east, north and southern paddocks to Appin Road. 2018 court hearings challenged this rezoning. Campbelltown City Council push for North-South Rail Link through property to Macarthur station yet to go to state government. Roads Authority are scoping a new arterial road through or alongside the property. Powerful developer proponents for rezoning and housing. [Property Observer news item](#), [Macarthur Advertiser news item - Large development south of Rosemeadow now one step closer](#) and [Macarthur Advertiser news item - Massive land release in Menangle Park and Mount Gilead](#)

- **Meadowvale, Appin** – lacks State Heritage Register listing (despite recommendation in 2000), is to south of **Mt. Gilead** and **Beulah** farm estates. Similar threats to Mount Gilead (see above item). Two outbuildings mysteriously burnt down in 2017. Risk of sale, rezoning and similar outcomes to those sought for Mt. Gilead to its north. Threat of urbanization engulfing both. Same threats (rail, road corridor bisection) as Mount Gilead. Loss of rural landscape, intact grants, wildlife corridors and historic gardens.
- **Oran Park estate** – loss of garden outlook and approaches, with a new suburb located very close, poor conservation of garden and setting. Property has changed hands of developers, lacks integrated management or a future use (homestead and garden). Badgery's Creek rail line and station, rapidly urbanising context. [Catherine Park House link](#), [Camden History – Oran Park](#) and [Statement of Significance](#)
- **Glenlee, Menangle Park** – impacts of planning proposal for rezoning context for residential subdivision, adjacent new elevated arterial road cutting into its key south-west vista, industrial development, sound walls obscuring key views in and out. [History](#) – [Government Statement of Significance](#) – [News item on proposal](#)
- **Maryland, Cobbitty** – still awaiting State Heritage Register listed: deferred 13 years; owner now supports listing, pending rezoning and urbanization around it – new roads, shops, school – Badgery's Creek rail link extension may have impacts on it. [Camden History Notes blogspot](#) and [Camden Advertiser news item](#)
- **Badgery's Creek rail line**, urbanisation (from Edmondson Park north to St. Marys, east of Penrith) to impact on south-east part of **Orielton** estate, government says it will be underground under Harrington Park and part of **Oran Park** estate and possibly **Maryland** next door to the north. [ABC News 16 April 2014](#)
- **Historic Hurlstone Agricultural High School** - threatened. Listed on the National Trust (NSW) (Suburban) Register in September 2009; largely intact colonial landscape entirely constituted from lands granted in 1809. The longest continuously cultivated agricultural and pastoral lands in NSW and Australia. [Sydney Morning Herald news item](#) Landscape adjoins **Macquarie Field House** - NSW Land & Environment Court appeals twice over proposed residential subdivisions of the farm's southern and south-eastern flanks.
- **Yasmar estate**, Parramatta Road, Haberfield – neglect and inaction by State Government owner/manager: which keeps moving – Property NSW are the latest incarnation (and known for their focus on disposals of 'assets'). Some garden condition progress by a volunteer (& AGHS members) group who now have sporadic access to it. After lobbying, including by the Sydney branch, new WestConnex tunnel vents and increased surface traffic and density were built further away from its southern edge and front fence.
- **Sorensen Nursery, Leura** – medium-density housing has eroded extent of site and its character, Blue Mtns. Council compliance issues saga with changing owners - little/no maintenance of arboretum/nursery site, house is still unused. [Blue Mountains City Council Development Plan and Sorensen Biography](#)
- **Lewers Bequest & Penrith Regional Gallery, Emu Plains** – (delay/block on State Heritage Register listing by Board. Needs better garden resourcing & management/ conservation management plan is overlooked / training/ use of garden volunteers. [About the-lewers-bequest](#)
- **Western Sydney University Richmond campus (Hawkesbury Agricultural College)** – master plan for infill, lack of landscape listing or respect: removal of shrub layer for safety concerns, poor management. Lacks State Heritage Register listing. [Campus info](#) [Hawkesbury Gazette news item](#) and [Hawkesbury Harvest Campus Tour Guide and Map, incl. history](#)
- **Avenue of Honour, Freshwater, Manly** – ongoing overhead power-line pruning, poor management, lack of replanting gaps, community group has lobbied for and is achieving change, now for the better. Heritage Council may reconsider State Heritage listing, given its recently improved management and condition. [Friends of Freshwater Facebook page Daily Telegraph April 16 2015](#)
- **Overthorpe, Double Bay**. Sir John Hay's experimental holistic garden management, editing, replanting. Heritage plaque placed on footpath outside by Council. Garden management still erratic. [More information on Sir John Hay](#)
- **Tempe House, Tempe** – surrounded by high rise apartments, illegal tree removals, poisoning, erosion of garden/surrounds, lack of coordinated prioritised management. Introduction of monthly weekend markets could be a good thing to raise awareness of site. Historic Houses Association of Aus. to run heritage festival day there in August 2019 – another good move. [Council link](#) and [The Leader news item](#)
- **Centennial Park, Bathurst** – Regional Council commissioned a report on future options which include a community cultural centre, i.e. infill, of a more modest upgrade and new WCs. Cost is \$4.4m, risk is Council doing nothing. Community pushing for staged works, first priority is installing irrigation and new tree plantings. <http://www.westernadvocate.com.au/story/4525761/a-provocative-decision-poll/?cs=115>
- **Shubra Hall, Croydon** – lack of inclusion of wider school open space outside the small State Heritage Register listing curtilage. [Statement of Significance](#) Then Planning Minister Rob Stokes [Media Release](#)

- **Belmont Park, North Richmond** State Heritage Register listing only covers buildings and immediate grounds, not the expansive, historic estate or its key views in and out, nor even founder Archibald Bell's grave site on the estate. [Department link](#) and [Property Observer article](#)
- **War memorial coastal cypress pines, Tweed Heads** – interim heritage order, need replanting and care. Council have commissioned a heritage study of the trees, a good sign. Pressure on the camping site means they are losing ground to campers, who used to be seasonal only. [Echo Daily news item](#)
- **Honour Avenue of Norfolk pines, Cudgen** - Tweed Shire Council support heritage listing and retaining it. Council at urging of a Progress Association in 2013 cut down 4 slash pines planted by a resident (active in the RSL and in getting the war memorial built), a Mr Kapel, in honour of his fallen Dutch storm trooper colleagues lost in WW2 (part of this avenue). These were replaced with a sole Norfolk Island pine, dedicated on Anzac Day 2013. This was to replace a diseased (now removed) old Norfolk Island pine in the primary school grounds, dedicated to a local soldier who [Tweed Daily News item](#) and [Echo Net Daily](#)
- **18 Wyatt Avenue and Appian Way, Burwood**, Burwood Council conservation area needs expansion north.
- **Gladesville Hospital, Gladesville**– lack of State Heritage Register listing, grounds conservation, holistic site management. [Masterplan](#). This is one of ten nominations seeking NSW state heritage-listing, lodged by Institute of Landscape Architects (NSW) in December 2018. Most are harbour-side parklands.
- **Kenmore Hospital (fmr.), Goulburn** – lack of an interested owner, future uses, income, property neglected, at risk of residential rezoning and unsympathetic infill, loss of landscape character. [ABC News Item](#) and [Canberra Times article](#)
- **Kameruka estate, Candelo** (Bega Valley) – for sale again, risk of subdivision and fragmentation, lack of interested owner, lack of SHR listing or landscape-level protection - **Local Press** [Tooth descendant sells Kameruka](#) and [Kameruka Estate for sale as three lots](#)
- **Yobarnie Keyline Farm, North Richmond** inadequate curtilage on State Heritage listing, inadequate development controls mean gradual erosion and removal of key landscape features - <http://www.redbankrichmond.com.au/>
- **St. Leonards Park, North Sydney** – 1830s+ early public park – at risk of Western Harbour Tunnel filtration building plonked in its south-east corner, and ventilation stack nearby to east. [North Sydney Council: Stop development of an indoor sports centre in St Leonards Park](#) Also background threat of [St. Leonards Park, North Sydney - sports complex proposal](#) to dig up 1/3, bury an underground sports complex, grass roof (feasibility study for sports complex) - [Save St Leonards Park Facebook](#) page
- **Planning system reform** (standardised 'one set of zones, controls') state-wide, impact on heritage conservation areas, development adjacent to heritage items, lack of scrutiny of infill. Lack of recognition of variety of landforms, climates, regional distinctiveness, need for planning controls to reflect this.
- **Arncliffe Market Gardens**, West Botany Street, Arncliffe – proposed loss of some 35% of state-heritage-listed curtilage for subdivision to create a golf fairway on a proposed relocated Kogarah Golf Course. Cook Cove South Precinct State Significant DA includes rezoning to allow other land to be medium density housing, move golf course (partly onto market gardens), public domain and shared Cooks River and Muddy Creek paths. Market gardens in almost continuous use since the 1840s.

ACTION

- **Macquarie University campus landscape, Macquarie Park** - designed by late Prof. Richard Clough – Student Union quadrangle's great lemon-scented gum 'forest' cut down in name of 'safety', multiple unsympathetic infill (buildings/expansion, one blocking main visual/circulation axis), demolition. Lack of heritage listing and owner opposition to listing, master plan guiding development. Identified in 2013 Heritage Council 'modernism' study as a priority to state-list. No government action to follow that up. Major Project link: http://majorprojects.planning.nsw.gov.au/index.pl?action=view_job&job_id=8755
- **Callan Park estate, Lilyfield** – Public skateboard park proposal, private sports club intrusions (Glover St. 'Waterfront' and Balmain Road 'ovals'), over-scaled lighting, car parking, unapproved, uncoordinated signs, poor garden conservation resourcing. Stalled Broughton Hall water-garden restoration. State government is touting a 'Landscape Structure Plan' which proposes some 30% of buildings be demolished to 'open up' links, new paths through the site (as if just a park). State government announced funding for Waterfront oval upgrade, flood lighting. [Leichhardt Council - Community-Issues](#) and [Masterplan link](#).
- **Clydesdale estate, Marsden Park** – bisection of curtilage by proposed Outer Sydney Orbital - 8 lanes of traffic, freight rail lines, sound walls through middle of farm. Adjacent planning proposal and applications for rezoning, large-scale cut and fill for flood-free housing on much of its rural setting to east and south;

subdivision and houses along its drive. Site has no Heritage Council-endorsed conservation plan. [Sydney Morning Herald November 18 2015 Marsden Park Precinct – Rezoned Precinct Plan](#)
<https://www.transport.nsw.gov.au/corridors/oso>

- **Denbigh, Cobbitty** – severe impact on rural setting of proposed Outer Sydney Orbital to direct west, bisecting key valley and changing its viability and quiet, rural character. Northern Road upgrade to 8 lanes to the farm’s east also. AGHS has visited and enjoyed Denbigh several times, including 2004 conference.
<https://www.osomacarthur.com/> <https://www.transport.nsw.gov.au/corridors/oso>
- **Camden Park, Menangle/South Camden** – proposed Outer Sydney Orbital to skirt estate’s west and join Hume Highway to its south past Menangle – impact on quiet rural setting, viability and character of valley. AGHS has visited and enjoyed Camden Park several times. Public submissions closed 1 June 2019.
<https://www.osomacarthur.com/> <https://www.transport.nsw.gov.au/corridors/oso>
- **Royal Botanic Garden, Sydney and Domain** loss of Domain land and open views on ‘land bridge’ to build Art Gallery of NSW’s ‘Sydney Modern’ extension, now approved but not yet fully-funded – the state government have agreed to part-funding, donations are required for the shortfall. Wholesale change at ground level with widespread bed ‘revitalisation’- much ‘municipal’ bedding, loss of diversity and wholistic management. Botanic Garden & Domain master plan over-commercialisation, pressure to double the no. of paid events, privatize public open space, new orientation structures, moving scientists and herbarium off-site - [Sydney Morning Herald news item](#) and [RBG Sydney Major-Projects](#) link.
http://www.majorprojects.planning.nsw.gov.au/index.pl?action=view_job&job_id=6471 ;
- **Tarwyn Park, Bylong** becomes a coalmine for approximately two years. Petition supporting state heritage listing. Kepco Mining Co. keen to mine most of the site and setting. Send a message to Hon Josh Frydenberg MP Minister for the Environment & the Prime Minister. [SIGN THE PETITION NOW](#)
- **Varroville farm, St. Andrews** Rezoning of surrounding farm for [a new cemetery](#) use, destruction of rural context, no SHR listing for this wider land (former farm) and delay in action on proposed curtilage expansion - [Macarthur Cemetery Masterplan](#). Impact of ‘landscape style’ cemetery, Macarthur Memorial Park impact on character and management. Stalling on expanding Varroville’s State Heritage Register listing to include some or all of its surroundings (once its farmland). SNNSW Branch has made submissions.
- **Cumberland Hospital, Parramatta (fmr. Female Factory)** – North Parramatta Urban Activation Precinct master plan/ infill proposals (up to 17 stories, some inside grounds), proper conservation of grounds, holistic site management, due to the North Parramatta Urban Activation Precinct Master Plan – rezoning approved by State Government despite public opposition. Rezoning approved by State - [North Parramatta Residents Action Group](#) and [ABC News item](#). State government appealing for partners to occupy and redevelop heritage buildings in new complex.
- **Darlington and Camperdown Campus, University of Sydney** – infill/expansion per Master Plan, progressive loss of open space and treed setting. The site’s landscape (grounds) conservation management plan is overlooked. Fragmented management (18 separate building conservation plans; disregard by University of single ‘landscape’ conservation plan for entire campus. Only recently State Heritage Register listed: both University and adjacent **Victoria Park**. Construction underway of Chau Chak Wing extension to Macleay Museum – unsympathetic post-modern ‘block’ intrusion with major adverse impact on site’s ‘public face’ to and entry off Parramatta Road. [Architecture.org.au/news item on Masterplan](#)
- **Moore Park, Anzac Avenue (Honour Avenue) and Allison Road**, mature fig avenues gouged and partly removed for light rail construction, lack of consideration of realignment, State Significant project to avoid scrutiny - [ABC News Item](#) and [NSW Government site ‘My Sydney’ update](#). Government have approved knock-down (not yet the rebuilding) of Allianz Stadium, land-grab for ancillary elements. Secrecy re contracts (construction?) being issued or not, pre-3/2019 state election. Government likely to proceed.
<http://www.news.com.au/finance/economy/australian-economy/backlash-grows-over-nsw-governments-2-billion-stadium-scam/news-story/b06ef337c76ca8a4828e9c6d18b39142>
- **Redstone (Winter house) and garden, Telopea** – District Master Plan threat of over-dominating high-rise towers on north and north-east sides of Walter Burley Griffin designed house and garden from 1935.
- **Parramatta Park, Parramatta** – rapid approvals of high-rise towers dominating its setting (city edges the park’s east side) above and beyond planning controls, absence of Federal Government leadership in management; master plans for precincts of park and threat of relocation of demolished War Memorial Swimming Centre onto the Park’s south, Mays Hill/former golf course. Parramatta Stadium upgrade has removed c85 trees and over-urbanized Domain land. Trust seems to be de-favouring heritage in the park’s management focus. [Parramatta City Council major developments](#) link and [Daily Telegraph news item](#)

- [Juniper Hall, Oxford Street, Paddington](#) Proposal for major redevelopment of an art gallery, rear extension. Previous version of DA refused by Heritage Council. New DA lodged, not finalized yet.
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Tasmanian Branch

WATCH

- [Home Hill garden, Devonport](#) – Branch liaising with Council and holding stakeholder meetings finalising draft landscape management plan (to restore and adapt grounds for increased public access, interpretation). The Branch met in August 2019 to revive activity and hopes to begin implementing recommended tasks soon after. Council have yet to adopt the LMP and thus enable funds and implementation. A recent donation will go towards plants for the garden.
- [Lauderdale Cottage, Hobart](#) and its environs from inappropriate development. Currently back on the market after failed development bid.
- **Western Tasmania Aboriginal Cultural Landscape** (National Her.(NH)-Listed place) - state government proposal to re-open and increase use of 4WD tracks closed after research demonstrated unacceptable impacts on Aboriginal heritage; government taken to court by Tasmanian Aboriginal Centre; currently an EPBC referral, with a review in late 2017 asking for more information on the impacts to natural values.
- **Recherche Bay** (north peninsula is an NH-listed cultural landscape) - a proposed floating hotel in the form of a long chain of anchored pods across the bay, has passed a significant way through government EOI process; this will have significant impacts on the landscape, local use and access; it has been designed to avoid impacting land, but in this case there is plenty area of private land with no/minimal special values where a hotel would be much more appropriate than on the water.
- **Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area** - a number of new resort developments proposed, including in remote, wilderness (other than past Aboriginal use) areas with a range of impacts; being assessed through the government EOI process, many are some way through this, likely to be assessed in house by Parks Service with no consultation or option for appeal. Also a considerably weakened Management Plan.

ACTION

- **Living City Devonport stage 2 – redeveloping foreshore parkland** along Victoria Parade and Formby Road – claimed to be the largest urban renewal project ever in Tasmania, Devonport Council propose to fell mature trees, urbanise a key city/river-front landscaped green open space with sculpture park, playspace, geowalk, amphitheatre, geogarden, art axis, etc. Branch has made objections and seeks the possible relocation of commemorative statues of Dame Edith and Joseph Lyons from the park to Home Hill (their former home, now a house and garden museum in the city's outskirts. It seems Council are now reviewing their plans. More info: <http://www.livingcitydevonport.com.au/LIVING-CITY-Devonport>
- **Cambria estate tourist resort**, Swansea – \$100m rezoning planning proposal with major adverse impacts on early and intact colonial farm estate, its orchards, garden, rural setting and views to and from it. Once home to artist and writer, Louisa Meredith, visited by AGHS. The 3000-ha estate is proposed for a large tourism complex, airfield, 'sky hotel', multiple lodges, palliative care unit (!), spa, golf course, etc. The scale, impacts and inconsistency of integration of key documents exhibited are issues, as is rigour of assessments and what seems fast-track consideration by state government planning body. Tasmanian branch objection lodged. Australia ICOMOS objection lodged. Council approved it to go to Tasmanian Planning Commission (TPC) (4: 3 votes: one Councillor absented herself, after intimidation) stage 1 goes before TPC hearing sometime in 2019. Tasmanian Branch has written to each commissioner and will make a submission to TPC. TPC is being evasive about the timing, content and terms of its consideration, seem limited to land zoning, deflecting all detail to Council and later stages. Branch held a (80-full) public lecture in June 2019 on Cambria's heritage landscape rarity and heritage values, in Swansea Community Hall. The Tasmanian Planning Commission seems set to have hearings in late August 2019. https://myaccount.news.com.au/sites/dailytelegraph/subscribe.html?sourceCode=DTWEB_WRE170_a_G&mode=premium&dest=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.dailytelegraph.com.au%2Fnews%2Fnational%2Fplanner-fears-developers-may-sell-off-rezoned-east-coast-land%2Fnews-story%2F6a8beeb31fac50ca0724c30af3e304bd%3Fmk%3D91808b2d25c4fd72147164c7a751155d-1524970977&mementype=anonymous&v21=cta-an&v21suffix=cta-an
- **Hobart tower (hotel) proposals**, lack of adherence by State Government to City Council height controls, impact on Domain and Royal Tasmanian Botanical Gardens, setting of low-rise city viz Mt. Wellington.

Over-dominance, shadowing and wind impacts on historic Hobart city squares and parks and context of historic suburbs: scale, etc.

- **Mount Wellington cable car proposal** – major adverse impacts on natural and cultural values. Likely ‘white elephant’ with tour boats unlikely to long-term support this. Big construction, operation and visual impacts. Clear conflict of interest – Tourism Tas. Mt. Wellington Trust member is the largest shareholder in the cable car company. Government secrecy over the proposal.
 - **Planning system reform** (‘one set of zones/controls’) state-wide, impact on heritage conservation areas, new development adjacent to heritage items, lack of scrutiny of infill. Lack of recognition of variety of landforms, climates, regional distinctiveness, need for planning controls to reflect this.
 - **Midland Highway 10-year upgrading impacts on Pioneer Memorial Highway plantings** of the inter-war period. Particular sections such as St. Peter’s Pass involve widespread roadside hedges (hawthorns) and tree planting removals. There are no guarantees of budget or clear commitment to replant any removed trees, given scattered contracts for separate sections of works, no parallel private owner support to maintain trees on private land (original scheme relied on this). Branch to approach Dept. Of State Growth.
 - **Progressive de-listing (review of State Register) of 23,000 ha of rural lands around state heritage items** – reputedly with ‘no heritage values’ – it is puzzling how farms whose core activity remains farming and whose income supported building houses and gardens can have no ‘heritage value’ beyond their houses’ architecture? What about their gardens? Orchards? Lack of heritage landscape expertise on Heritage Council or weight given to these matters by Heritage Tasmania. [Tasmanian Times news item](#)
 - **Midlands farms (early Norfolk Plains land grants)** - many long-held in same family, e.g. [Panshangar](#), [Brickendon](#), Rhodes), threats from increased industrial ‘Food Bowl’ push for spread of pivot-irrigated agri-/horticulture scheme infrastructure, unregulated blue gum plantations blocking landscape views.
 - [Chudleigh valley](#), [Mole Creek](#) etc, - unregulated blue gum plantations, forestry, fragmented management.
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Victorian Branch

WATCH

- **Melbourne Domain Parklands draft Master Plan** – branch made detailed comments on ‘balancing’ competing demands on this major parkland with significant plantings, layout and associations. Coordinating competing interests and values is vital, prioritising heritage values and gaining agreement across stakeholder groups.
- **Ballarat Botanic Garden** – construction of a replica 1887 fernery is planned – one of the original garden’s highlights. Plans for replica are before Heritage Victoria.
- **Cruden Farm**, Langwarrin – Keith & Elisabeth Murdoch Trust lodged planning application to subdivide 15.8ha off 54ha site, rezoning to build up to 116 houses on east and south. This is claimed to support maintenance and opening garden to the public. Frankston City Council deferred matter late 2017, seeking more information. A possible outcome is public exhibition of an amended scheme. Another is this going straight to the Minister, avoiding public scrutiny. State government said in 9/2017 it will not alter urban growth boundary (which the proposal requires). Await re-consideration and possible exhibition.
- **H.V. McKay Memorial Gardens. Sunshine** – neglect by Brimbank Council, one of the last industrial gardens in Australia and Victoria’s oldest. The Friends are negotiating a Strategic Management Plan with Council. Development Plan appears to use the gardens as ‘borrowed’ open space, may impact on their infrastructure, especially south boundary and excision of land. Vic. Branch invited by Council to be part of a management group overseeing the adopted Management Plan.
- **Hanging Rock, Mt. Macedon** - campaign to prevent threat of development [10/09/2015 SCHEDULE 1 TO THE SIGNIFICANT LANDSCAPE OVERLAY ...](#)
- **Avenue of Honour, Corindhap** (Near Rokewood) Photographic evidence sent to [www.Treenet.org](#)
- **Horsham Boer War Memorial Avenue** letter to RSL/ Information to NTA (Vic.).
- **Port Fairy Botanic Garden** – neglect of garden, focus on Holiday Park adjacent.
- **System Garden, Botany Dept., Melbourne University** – Heritage Council did not list it on Vic. Heritage Register due to changes made since 1970s. Vic. Branch has made submissions to the University on a strategic development plan addressing all stakeholder needs, which appear to have been overlooked. Master plan not yet made public and University’s management commitment to the site is unclear as yet.

First stage of master plan accepted by University but commitment to full plan remains uncertain. Work done to re-establish some hedging to assist with student traffic. [News Item Facebook page Trust Advocate article](#). Write your support for conserving and interpreting this important historic garden via the new master plan, to vc@unimelb.edu.au

ACTION

- **Royal Botanic Gardens, Melbourne Master Plan** – the branch is preparing a submission on this major guiding document over the gardens' next 20 years.
- **Footscray Park, Melbourne Master Plan** – Branch wrote to Maribyrnong Council re proposal to amend 2011 MP as a step towards granting a lease to Melbourne Victory to develop western lawns into 3 soccer fields, 500 seat pavilion, grandstand and 10 light towers. Park is Victorian Heritage Register item as public open space – something rare in Western suburbs. A committee member attended a recent public meeting with Councillors and other objectors. AGHS has visited it in conferences, walks and talks twice.
- **Heide (gallery of modern art) and site Master Plan** – Branch sent a letter of support for plan underway for Heide's 40th anniversary, in 2021. Branch has requested consultation as part of public consultation. Site listed on State Heritage Register and unique. Both architects & landscape architects engaged.
- **Camperdown Botanic Garden Arboretum / Holiday Park** – CBG Trust has lodged a VCAT appeal against Corangamite Shire Council approval of a planning permit for 5 new buildings in (and at the expense of) the Arboretum. Council has allocated \$200k for a toilet block in the failing caravan park alongside, a blight on the setting and trees. This has heritage and planning permits, but with stringent conditions requiring Tree and Landscape Management Plans, signage acknowledging that they are sitting in the CBG and Arboretum. The VCAT appeal is listed for hearing in September. Council is reluctant to fund implementation of conservation plan recommendations, citing the caravan park's outstanding lease. The gardens' 2019 150th anniversary is an opportunity for promoting passive recreation and its value as a tourism lure and the good work done reviving the garden. A new stakeholder reference group is over-represented with commercial interests. AGHS gave a \$: \$ grant of \$10k to revive and develop the shrubbery. Council has appointed a part-time gardener to help: a positive step.
<https://www.avonadvocate.com.au/story/5464883/group-vows-to-fight-plan-for-200000-toilet-block/>
[News story](#)
- **Faulkner Park, Melbourne** – VHR item, proposed improvements include removing basketball court, new sports court, drainage, tree removals, new trees, 2 new paths. Branch has commented to Heritage Victoria on impacts of proposed sports courts on park's heritage layout and character. Heritage Victoria have refused a permit for the proposal. Info: <https://msyrg.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/2019-02-BULLETIN-HISTORIC-AWKNER-PARK-HERITAGE-UNDER-THREAT-as-pdf.pdf>
<https://www.heritage.vic.gov.au/permits/currently-advertised-permits>
- **Smith's Nursery, Riddle's Creek** – VHR-listed, 1863: one of oldest in Victoria. A planning permit has been advertised to subdivide it into 6 lots and create a reserve, install services, remove and prune vegetation. A branch submission was made, recommending part be public reserve, subject to a vegetation management plan and interpretation being provided, its key plantings and Aboriginal significance. See <http://www.trustadvocate.org.au/new-public-reserved-planned-at-the-former-smiths-nursery/>
- **Sunbury Rings Cultural Landscape, Sunbury** - currently planning proposal for residential subdivision, infill and new Jacksons Creek crossing which would bisect the landscape. [News item](#). Planning Panel hearing October 2017.
- **Melbourne Metro Rail Project** – Loss of 103 trees and landscape amenity along St Kilda Road/Domain. Branch support provided to [National Trust Victoria's campaign](#) to minimise impact on this significant boulevard from tree, kerb and guttering removal, tram and road realignment. Submissions made to Heritage Victoria and Vic. Rail Authority to minimise impact, but these were ignored. National Heritage Listing of Domain announced in February 2018 but doesn't affect previous Metro approval.
- [SaveStKildaRoad instagram](#) and [Twitter](#). Planning permit advertised for temporary construction site on Edmund Herring Oval, supporting structures and removal of trees. Another to remove trees, kerb and guttering, alter road and tram layout, establish construction area and station box.

NOTE: Keep an eye on <http://www.trustadvocate.org.au/tag/heritagevictoria/> for more landscapes at risk

West Australian Branch

WATCH

- **Woodbridge House, Woodbridge** – branch discussing possible garden interpretation projects with National Trust of Australia (WA).
- **Pensioner Guard's cottage garden, Bassendean** – Branch to advise Council and liaise with successful landscape architect on layout and content of a to-be-revived garden. WAHR and NTA-listed site.
- **Burrup Peninsula, Kimberley Coast**, a rugged rocky landscape with literally hundreds of these rocks covered with amazing Indigenous artwork: some of the oldest rock art in the world. Suggested for World Heritage listing but no federal (or WA) government support. WA government push for major industrial port/hub, mining and land clearance with direct impacts.
- **Hyde Park, Vincent** - communication with the State Heritage Office expressing concern with a proposal to allow a commercial venture, against recommendations in the conservation plan. [HYDE PARK PRECINCT – SCHEME MAP 12 - City of Vincent](#)
- **Wallcliffe House, Margaret River** – ruined after a fire, possible reconstruction? Or new-build, its future is uncertain. [News item](#)
- **Stirling Gardens, Guildford** – The central town square, part of the original c1829 town planning scheme is currently at risk because of pressures to upgrade and modernise this space. E.g. increasing parking and incorporating modern recreational facilities that would dilute the square's heritage value. Needs community and stakeholder consultation.

ACTION

- **King's Park, Perth / John Oldham Park, City of Perth, Mounts Bay road** – A designed landscape as part of the Mitchell Freeway interchange. Current threats from recent development on the foreshore of the Swan River (Elizabeth Quay) and a proposed cable car between Elizabeth Quay and Kings Park. The pylons needed would visually intrude and if positioned in this park could possibly compromise the space. Needs community and stakeholder consultation. Proposal requires State Government approval of feasibility study. <https://thewest.com.au/news/perth/kings-park-chief-rejects-cable-car-proposal-ng-b88524848z>
<http://www.friendsofkingspark.com.au/support-us/proposed-perth-cable-car/>. Submission objecting to the proposal sent.
- **Strawberry Hill Farm, Albany** - possible future uses, redevelopment in vicinity of the orchard, which is of state significance. Branch in discussion with National Trust of WA about partnership to celebrate bicentenary of arrival of British at King George Sound in 1826 (and founding the farm). Full-time gardener given 3 months by Trust (restructure). Branch submission on this, concerned at reliance on volunteers.
- **Wirra Willa gardens, Armadale** – branch submission to WA Heritage Council on poor condition of garden. State Government reply notes no compulsion on owners of state-(interim-)listed gardens to maintain them, although grant funding is available to help. City Council says it is powerless or appears reluctant to act, awaiting a DA before it considers requiring any action of the owner.