

SOME HISTORICAL FACTS ABOUT WOLLONGONG PARKS

(In view of the public interest in recent discussions on the preservation and possible extension of the Public Recreation areas in Wollongong, the following gleanings from the Records of the Illawarra Historical Society have been made by our Research Secretary).

McCabe Park, known previously as Ledger's Paddock. Resumed March 11, 1927.

Beatson Park (Rosemont Estate): "At sale of Rosemont Sub-division, No., 1903, a number of townsmen purchased Lots 11 and 12, Sect. 1 as a public park in name of J. A. Beatson (organiser of movement). Purchase completed 1912 with help of Govt. contribution and declared a Public Park, 8th Jan., 1913. Council are Trustees.

Wiseman Park: Lands Dept. and Council purchased 22 acres from Messrs. E. Vickery & Sons Ltd for £600. Council paid £150 of purchase money. New roads made left 19 acres of park. This area was named Wiseman Park at request of Council and declared Public Park on Jan. 8th, 1913 with Council as Trustees.

Market Square: Area 1 acre 2 roods 17½ perches. Dedicated for Public Recreation 9th Oct., 1891.

Brighton Lawn: Area 2 roods 37 perches. On waterfront at Harbour, facing Harbour St.; declared a Public Reserve Sept. 19th, 1906.

Cliff Road Reserve — including Men's Swimming Baths and Surf Bathing areas from Brighton Beach to Stuart Park. Declared a Public Reserve July 17th, 1907. Area: 13 acres ex Mt. Pleasant Tramway twenty feet wide. "Control devolved on Council. Lands Dept. Letter, 10/4/11.

Sand Drift Reserve: All foreshores, Swan St. to Flagstaff Hill and east of Harbour St. from Crown St. to Swan St. Area 70 acres 3 roods. Dedicated to Public Recreation July 12th, 1911.

The Green (Showground) withdrawn from Reserve 1/9/16.

Stewart St. (closed) 16/11/16.

Burelli St. (closed, i.e., within area) 31/3/16.

Showground dedicated as Showground and Recreation Reserve, 12/11/18 and dedicated to Athletic Ground and Showground 26/4/29.

Police Paddock fronting Cliff Rd., adjoining Sand Drift Reserve, declared a Public Reserve, 1/11/29.

Robertson Park (Lots 7 and 4 of Hector and Hinton Sts.) transferred to Council by Hector Robertson.

Lot 2 of Convent Land, transferred to Council in consideration of filling of adjoining land.

Racecourse Reserve, 77 acres, on Port Kembla Road. Dedicated for Racecourse and Public Reserve, Feb. 14th, 1873. Revoked and re-dedicated for similar purpose Jan. 16th, 1931. Road through Reserve closed Dec. 1st, 1931.

Stuart Park, 56 acres. Dedicated Sept. 29th, 1885. Council appointed as Trustees Sept. 10th, 1920.

J. S. G. Worland,
President,
Phone B2075.

(Miss) D. Slinn, Hon. Sec.,
5 Wiseman Ave.,
Wollongong.