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## BOOK REVIEW

One of our society's esteemed members, Don Reynolds, held a book launch for his latest publication titled **The History of the Land Purchased for the Building of Port Kembla Steelworks.**

The launch was very well attended and the book very well received. At first glance it is an impressive publication fully researched and written by Don with some assistance from Illawarra Shoalhaven Region of the National Trust, Illawarra Historical Society and Australia's Industry World and printed and published by BHP Flat Products.

To write an historical publication requires a lot of research which could span some years. Though the 'Steelworks' at Port Kembla did not begin until 1928 Don had to go back to Illawarra's earliest occupation first by the Wadi Wadi tribe then from 1815 onwards by the white man. He takes us through the various land grants and their owners, occupiers and developments all accompanied by official maps and later on with fascinating aerial photographs of the areas in question. One of the most intriguing photographs is the one of Charles Hoskins with a group of men examining a plan of the purchase of land at Port Kembla which was the cataclyst to set Don on the path to investigate the history of this purchase. The result is a thoroughly researched work of which Illawarra and in particular the Hoskins' descendants, AI&S, later BHP, and the many families who earlier occupied the land, can be proud of to have on their bookshelves. Don Reynolds, having written many reports during his employ with AI&S and his interest in the history of the area, has excelled himself with the depth of his work. Congratulations Don, a job well done. Copies are available from Don Reynolds, phone (02) 4229 3459 for the cost of a donation to '2000 Pallative Care'. JH