

Kogarah War Memorial Pool, Carss Park

Fact Sheet 1: History of the site

1880

The land below the low water line (3 acres 22 perches) around the point was reclaimed by the Carss family following government approval.

 The survey diagram of the Carss Estate point can be viewed in *Landscape Heritage Study for Carss Bush Park (including Todd Park)* (2004), Mayne-Wilson & Associates. p.7.

1923

Kogarah Municipal Council purchases the Carss Park Estate on 30 April 1923. A 1923 survey for the proposed subdivision of the Carss Park Estate indicates that some reclamation works had been carried out prior to the sale of the estate.

 The survey diagram of the Carss Park Estate subdivision can be viewed in *Landscape Heritage Study for Carss Bush Park (including Todd Park)* (2004), Mayne-Wilson & Associates. p.11.

1927

Kogarah Municipal Council discussed proposals to use the north west portion of Carss Park to bury nightsoil covered with garbage and street clippings. It is unclear if this process was used during later reclamation north of Carss Point.

1928

Middle Ward Ratepayers and Citizens Association requests that no garbage, rubbish or offensive matter be used in the reclamation of low lying land in and around Carss Park.

Carss Bush Park Ratepayers Improvement League comments to Council that insufficient topsoil and chloride of lime was being deposited on top of dumped garbage.

1930

Special report by Kogarah Council Engineer identifying the reclamation of land north of Carss Point to create 18 acres for sports fields.

1937

Aerial photo of Carss Park, indicating the shoreline north of Carss Point.



Source: *Landscape Heritage Study for Carss Bush Park (including Todd Park)* (2004), Mayne-Wilson & Associates. p.34.

1943



Source: SixMaps: <https://maps.six.nsw.gov.au/>

1946

Kogarah Municipal Council borrows £40,000 to finance land reclamation projects at both Oatley Bay and Carss Park.

1954

“Kogarah Municipal Council purchased the Estate in 1923 and reserved part of the land as parkland and subdivided the remainder into building blocks. The original land set aside for parkland was 19.5 hectares (43 acres), but since then by land reclamation and resumption, the area has been greatly increased to include playing fields and large picnic areas. That area of reclaimed foreshore remains unreserved Crown land. The parkland now encompasses an area in excess of 25 hectares.”

Carss Bush park & Todd Park Plan of Management (2004), Kogarah Council, p 11.



Image: Study area and precinct map.

Source: *Landscape Heritage Study for Carss Bush Park (including Todd Park) (2004), Mayne-Wilson & Associates. p.11.*

Regarding precinct 7 in the diagram above, the area where the sports fields and Olympic Pool were established was made possible by the “massive reclamation project undertaken by Council to the north of Carss Point from the late 1940s”.

Landscape Heritage Study for Carss Bush Park (including Todd Park) (2004), Mayne-Wilson & Associates. pp.36-41.

More reading

More information on the history of the site and photographs showing the result of reclamation works over time during the 1930s and 1940s can be viewed in:

Landscape Heritage Study for Carss Bush Park (including Todd Park) (2004), Mayne-Wilson & Associates.

<https://www.georgesriver.nsw.gov.au/StGeorge/media/Documents/Environment/Final%20Plans%20of%20Management/Carss-Bush-Park-Heritage-Study-2004.pdf>

Carss Bush park & Todd Park Plan of Management (2004), Kogarah Council.

<https://www.georgesriver.nsw.gov.au/StGeorge/media/Documents/Environment/Final%20Plans%20of%20Management/Carss-Bush-Park-Heritage-Study-2004.pdf>