

Submission

No 14


INQUIRY INTO THE UTILISATION OF RAIL CORRIDORS

Organisation: Walking Volunteers

Name: Mr Bill Orme

Position: Co-ordinator

Date Received: 23/02/2012



20 February 2012.

The Committee Manager
Committee on Transport and Infrastructure
Parliament House
Macquarie Street
Sydney 2000

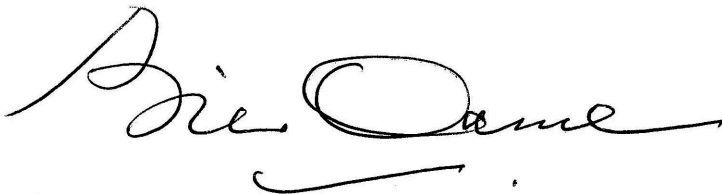
**Walking Volunteers Submission –
Inquiry into the utilisation of rail corridors**

I attach our submission to the Inquiry. We have no objection to being made public and are prepared to attend the Inquiry if required.

The attachments are:

1. Brief history of Walking Volunteers
2. Copy *A Harbour Circle Walk* brochure showing full *Walking Sydney Harbour & Coast Network* of brochures and downloadable leaflets. Note the whole network is based on using public transport with rail, bus (including route numbers), ferry, light rail and mono-rail highlighted.
3. N2 leaflet as an example of those described above.
4. North Sydney Walk to Work, shops etc. We have marked the four locations referred to in our submission on this map.

Multiple hard copies are available if required and electronic versions are on either or both of the Department of Planning's and North Sydney Council's websites.



WJ (Bill) Orme
Co-ordinator – Walking Volunteers

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1. Introduction.

The Walking Volunteers are the creators of the Walking Sydney Harbour & Coast network and supporting brochures, signage and leaflets, Walk to Work brochures etc. and designers of a level pedestrian/cycle way from Willoughby to the Harbour Bridge (in conjunction with the Lane Cove Tunnel).

We have extensive experience in pedestrian movements and work closely with cyclists. We work with 23 Councils and over 15 state and federal agencies.

Railways and Expressways are two of the major barriers to pedestrian/cyclist movements and divide communities.

At the same time the land adjoining them and under/over passes can provide opportunities to break through these barriers, unite communities and provide sustainable transport and healthy recreational facilities.

2. Examples

Our detailed studies of the lower north shore identified major problems created by rail and identified opportunities through use of available rail land. We give four examples from a small area but these could be repeated throughout the metropolitan area.

2.1 Rail under River Road, North Sydney (located 'A' on map attached).

River Road is above the rail and divides the large residential area to its south from St Leonards Rail Station and the adjoining bus, medical and shopping facilities.

It is a major road with poor vision to the west with a steep up and down either side making the crossing dangerous and difficult particularly for young children, the disabled and women with prams. There is no pedestrian crossing or lights, only a small refuge.

The overpass is supported by two walls and use of the vacant land to the east would allow a cheap, level and safe passage for pedestrian and cyclists.

It would also remove them from the current crossing, improving traffic flows on this busy narrow section of road.

2.2 Rail around Berrys Bay. (located 'B' on map attached).

There is a difficult and unpleasant section in the very popular four day walk around Sydney Harbour (4th edition 2011-12) between Munro St (end of Sawmillers Park) and John St (beginning of Waverton Park).

Cutting into the lowest level of unused railway land between these points would create a pleasant, shorter and much more useable connection.

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Currently the option is up steep and unpleasant Munro St, over the railway, along Dumbarton St which has no footpath on the harbour side and down the steep John St with inadequate footpaths.

2.3 Rail underpass between Harry Howard and Badangi Reserves. (located 'C' on map attached).

Bushcare Volunteers working with Council have created these beautiful reserves but due to the topography those on the north or the rail have to take steep and long alternatives to connect to the south and the harbour. An underpass would be much used being shorter and much easier.

2.4 Rail overpass between Brennan Park and Badangi Reserve. (located 'D' on map attached).

Similarly to 2.3, an overpass would greatly benefit the connection between the two and the harbour.

2.5 Disability and pram and young children access.

There are good sections useable by the disabled and those with prams and young children, but due to unusable or difficult sections between, use by these groups is greatly impaired.

3. Annexures

3.1 Brief history of Walking Volunteers

3.2 Copy *A Harbour Circle Walk* brochure showing full *Walking Sydney Harbour & Coast Network* of brochures and downloadable leaflets. Note the whole network is based on using public transport with rail, bus (including route numbers), ferry, light rail and mono-rail highlighted.

3.3 N2 leaflet as an example of those described above.

3.3 North Sydney Walk to Work, shops etc. We have marked the four locations referred to in our submission on this map.

4. Open Submission

All our work is free and copyright use to the public is given. We seek to be included in any hearings.

Bill Orme
Co-ordinator, Walking Volunteers



The *Walking Volunteers* are a group of individuals who enjoy exploring areas on foot.

They aim to assist others to share in this pleasure, an aim which is summed up in their slogan: *'It's exhilarating and healthy'*

They believe that walking is one of the most effective and economical ways to:

- * combat obesity, * fight pollution, and * reduce congestion on our roads.

The Department of Planning has commented : *Their achievements have been far reaching.*

What they have achieved:

- Commencing in 1999, and then known as the *North Sydney Walking Volunteers*, they worked with North Sydney Council to develop a 45 km network of **six connected circular walks**, each with its own brochure. www.northsydney.nsw.gov.au click Recreation, then North Sydney Circle
- In 2001 they saw the need and designed a Lane Cove to the Harbour Bridge to be built in connection with the Lane Cove Tunnel project.
- In 2002 they started identifying the many little known pedestrian laneways, steps and routes throughout North Sydney. Many pedestrian opportunities, such as lanes and steps at the end of streets shown as 'no through way', lanes hidden behind walls and gardens or made to appear private were documented.
- In 2003 a working relationship was established with Willoughby, Lane Cove, Mosman and North Sydney Councils to map and sign pedestrian routes disregarding Council boundaries and to display each others' brochures. Since then 18 Councils, National Parks and HarbourTrust have in total joined in.
- In 2003 they assisted STEP Inc in the production of two new *Walking Tracks* maps, *'Bungaroo & Roseville Bridge'* and *'Northbridge & North Harbour'*.
- In 2004 they assisted the Hunters Hill walking volunteers in the production of 'Walks in Hunters Hill' brochures. Hunters Hill then joined with them and became the *North Shore Walking Volunteers*.
- In 2004 they produced the 'Walking North Sydney' brochure. (New edition 2009 being finalised) This publicised the pedestrian opportunities and encouraged people to walk to work, school, the shops, picnics etc. The opportunities are being signed with location maps. The brochure brought together the wide range of Council's walking publications, which are now downloadable from its website. The brochure won a 2005 Local Government Award, and is being copied by the City of Geneva, from whom one of the ideas in the brochure originated.
- In late 2004 Dept Planning offered funding to extend the area they covered, and this has resulted in between September to December 2005 the release of three Regional Brochures, *A Harbour Circle Walk*, *Harbour to Great North Walk* and *Harbour to Spit Walk* and (the latter being jointly funded with Mosman and North Sydney Councils). To produce these brochures the Volunteers have worked with ten local councils, three State and one Federal body, an example of how volunteers can work in partnership. The Volunteers are now known simply as the *Walking Volunteers*.
- In late 2005 working with HarbourTrust, Mosman Council & National Parks a joint brochure *Walking Middle Head – Taronga to Balmoral*.
- In 2007 all the Councils along the Sydney Coastline asked the Volunteers to extend the Harbour network up and down the coast. Now there are ten free

brochures (18 days walking through 17 Council areas) covering the whole Sydney Coastline (Palm Beach to Cronulla) and Harbour.

www.walkingcoastalsydney.com.au. (also be accessible through www.walkingsydney.net). See also individual short walk leaflets and background notes, especially No 5 – South Head and no 9 – A Harbour Circle Walk. They now make up over 800kms of walking routes.

- In 2009 they commenced work on two new brochures to extend the network west from the Harbour Circle to the head of the Parramatta River. Now complete and river crossings made the extension was launched by the Premier and Minister for Health on 23 September 2011. The Volunteers are now working with the Premiers Council on Active Living to maintain & extend the network.
- The main routes are being marked by the Volunteers with the internationally recognised 'yellow bar' system, and posters advertising the Network are installed. They have been so popular there has been three updates and reprints, now jointly funded by the partner bodies, of a further 300,000 copies on 2011.
- They work with and benefit greatly from the 50 year experience of the French Volunteer Walkers www.ffrandonnee.fr See 'Topo' guides with maps and notes.

The Walking Volunteers are:

Jim & Therese Archibald, Bill Avery, Neil & Pam Hardie, Phil Jenkyn, Ian Napier, Bill (Founder & Patron) & Nedra Orme, Caroline Minogue, Don & Laura Riddell, Bruce Robertson, Leigh Shearer-Heriot, Cameron Sparks, Graham Spindler (Coordinator) and Paul Webb. Sydney Mapping (Glenn Anderson, NSW State Marketing Manager), whose quality of mapping and economy of printing have backed the Volunteers from the outset.

Bill Orme – Founder & Patron

www.seniorcard.nsw.gov.au/myseior click 'todays senior' then 'Bill Orme'.

Since commencing retirement Bill & Nedra have walked over 60,000kms along the distance walking paths of Australia and overseas, and are now recognised as amongst the most experienced long distance walkers in the world. Bill has been instrumental in:

- Having most long distance walking tracks in NSW included on NRMA (automobile club) maps.
- Producing a checklist for walking guides, maps and signage now published in the British Long Distance Walkers magazine 'Strider'. The checklist was written after consulting leading writers and publishers around the world. He also writes the 'Practicals' advice in 'Strider', as well as articles on their walks in it and other publications.
- Assisting in the Federation Track, a 7,000 km footpath from Brisbane via Sydney, Melbourne, near Adelaide to above Wilpena Pound.

The Guidelines for : a. Long Distance paths b. Local paths.

The Practicals – Long Distance Walkers Association : www.ldwa.org.uk/library

1. Why walk long distances?
2. Choosing a route
3. Preparing your body for a walk (known as *the knee* exercises)
4. Looking after your body during a walk.
5. Your rucksack
6. Your boots and socks
7. Food, cooking, water.
8. Navigation-Keeping to the Route.
9. Packlists
10. Walkers Accommodation.
11. Day Walking from a base – examples in France.
12. Exploring a City on Foot.
13. Variety & Bizare.
14. Our Favourites.

Bill Orme

Sharing SYDNEY HARBOUR

A Harbour Circle Walk

4TH EDITION 2011-2012



Gladesville Bridge to Harbour Bridge

it's exhilarating & healthy

Walking Times

Times and distances are shown for all walks. Remember that the times marked are walking times only and are based on a walking speed of between 2.5 to 3 kilometres per hour, depending on the terrain. Add your own time for breaks, lunch or just looking.

Personal Care

The walk requires average fitness. Take care as it includes a variety of terrain and pathway conditions. Use sunscreen, carry water and wear a hat and good walking shoes.

Public Transport

Public transport is readily available at regular intervals along the way (see map). This allows considerable flexibility in entering and exiting the route. Note: not all services operate every day, and routes and timetables change.

Sydney Bus, train and ferry (routes shown in blue) timetables.
Infoline Tel: 131-500, www.131500.com.au

Matilda Ferries (routes shown in green mainly linking City and Lane Cove River wharves)
Tel: 9264 7377, www.matilda.com.au

Information on Metro Light Rail (MLR)
Tel: 9285 5600, www.metrolighttrail.com.au

Food, Drink & Toilets

Carry food and some water at all times. Food and drink are usually available along the route, but shops are not always open.

Toilets along the way are marked 'T'.

Accommodation

All overnight stops are at excellent transport hubs. The Four Day Walk can be done from one accommodation point such as Central CBD, The Rocks or North Sydney. Another option is to stay overnight on or near the route, and some B&Bs are marked on the map.

For information on bed and breakfast, historic hotels (some are shown on the map) and other accommodation, see Tourism NSW www.visitsw.com, NRMA Tel: 13 1122 www.mynrma.com and Sydney Visitor Centre www.sydneyvisitorcentre.com

Further Information

Brochures and Individual Leaflets

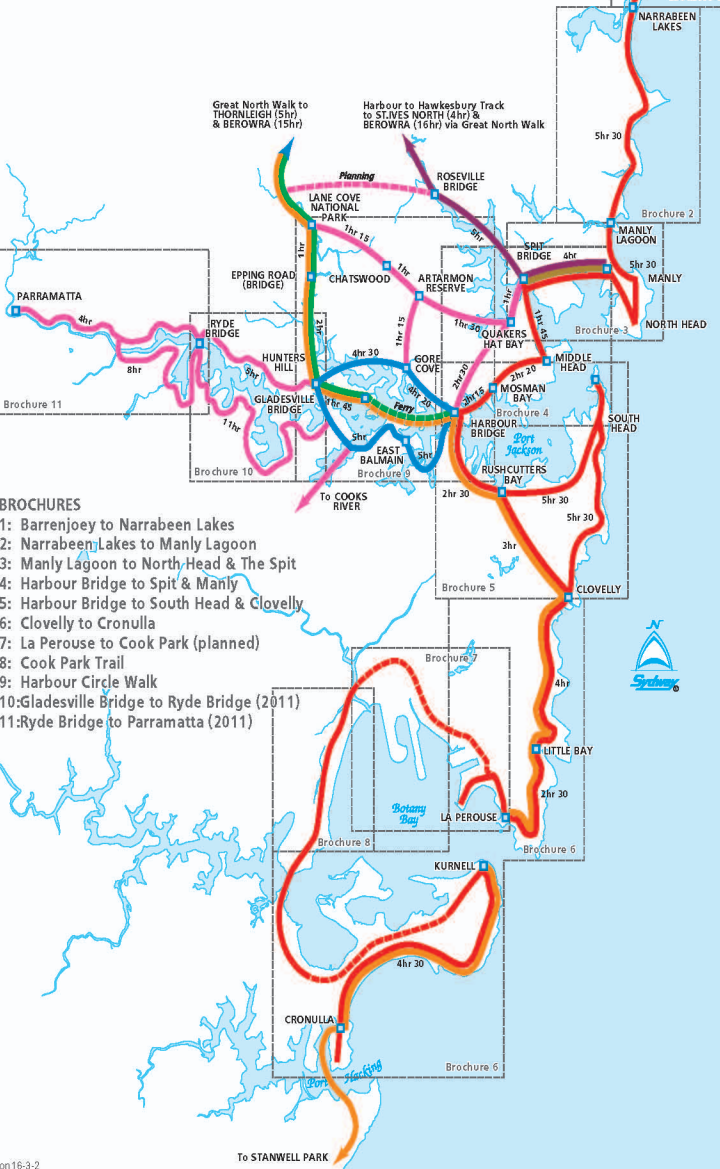
This and other brochures are downloadable pdfs (www.walkingsydney.net and www.walkingcoastalsydney.com.au) but the scale will be small if printed on A4 pages. Enlarging the pdf on screen and using the select tool to copy and then print the map in sections will assist. All day and loop walk leaflets download easily onto A4. Some of the following bodies have free copies of some brochures.

The Trunk Walking Routes of Sydney Harbour and Coast

- Coastal Walk
- Harbour Circle Walk
- Great North Walk
- Federation Track
- Spit to Manly Walk
- Harbour to Hawkesbury Track
- Other tracks

Approximate Walking Times in Hours and Minutes
e.g. 1 hour 45 minutes = 1hr 45

0 8
kilometres



BROCHURES

- 1: Barrenjoey to Narrabeen Lakes
- 2: Narrabeen Lakes to Manly Lagoon
- 3: Manly Lagoon to North Head & The Spit
- 4: Harbour Bridge to Spit & Manly
- 5: Harbour Bridge to South Head & Clovelly
- 6: Clovelly to Cronulla
- 7: La Perouse to Cook Park (planned)
- 8: Cook Park Trail
- 9: Harbour Circle Walk
- 10: Gladesville Bridge to Ryde Bridge (2011)
- 11: Ryde Bridge to Parramatta (2011)

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Canada Bay - City of (B7 area) 1a Marlborough Street, Drummoyne 1470. Tel: 9911 6555. Downloads on Canada Bay Council's attractions and sites including Mp3s and foreshore walk maps are available on www.canadabay.nsw.gov.au - click 'View the Area Map'.

Hunters Hill Council (B5 area) 22 Alexandra Street, Hunters Hill 2110. Tel: 9879 9400. Walks in Hunters Hill: Hunters Hill Woolwich Walks and Hunters Hill Gladesville Walks are available from the Customer Service Centre, and are downloadable from www.huntershill.nsw.gov.au - click 'walking maps'. See also home page www.huntershill.com.au for Walks & Maps and other information about Hunters Hill.

Lane Cove Council (D4 area) 48 Longueville Road, Lane Cove 2066. Tel: 9911 3555. The Walks of Lane Cove (free), Bushwalks around Lane Cove (\$9.90), and Exploring Historic Lane Cove (\$13.20) can be obtained from the Customer Service Centre and Lane Cove Library. See www.lanecove.nsw.gov.au

Leichhardt Municipal Council (E7 area) 7-15 Wetherill Street, Leichhardt 2040. Tel: 9367 9222 A brochure Out and About in Leichhardt is available from Council and is downloadable from www.leichhardt.nsw.gov.au - click 'About Leichhardt' in the 'Community' section.

National Parks and Wildlife Service. Information and tour bookings, Sydney Harbour National Park Information Centre, Cadmans Cottage, 110 George Street, The Rocks 2000. Tel: 9247 5033. www.nationalparks.nsw.gov.au

North Sydney Council (G6 area) 200 Miller Street, North Sydney 2060. Tel: 9936 8100. There are a number of brochures and publications available from the Customer Service Centre and Stanton Library. These include the six Circle Walks, Historical Society Walks (10 brochures), Headland/Bushland Walks, Heritage Series Walks and Plaque Walks. All are downloadable from www.northsydney.nsw.gov.au - click 'recreation'.

Planning - Department of (H8). The Sydney Harbour brochures are available from the Department of Planning's Information Centre at 23 Bridge Street, Sydney 2000. Tel: 9228 6111. The brochures can be downloaded at www.planning.nsw.gov.au/harbour

Saint Ignatius' College, Riverview (C4) Tambourine Bay Road, Lane Cove 2066 www.riverview.nsw.edu.au

Sydney - City of (G8 area) Town Hall House, 456 Kent Street, Sydney 2000. Tel: 9265 9333. The City's walking brochures include a number of historical walks. They can be obtained from City libraries, neighbourhood service centres, the One Stop Shop at Town Hall House and Customs House. They can be downloaded from www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au by clicking on 'visitors guides and information' in the 'About Sydney' section.

Sydney Coastal Councils Group Inc (G9) Town Hall House, 456 Kent Street, Sydney 2000. Tel: 9246-7701. www.walkingcoastalsydney.com.au

Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority (SHEA) Level 6, 66 Harrington Street, The Rocks 2000. Tel: 9240 8500. For information relevant to walks in The Rocks (G8), Darling Harbour (G9), Pyrmont (F9) and Ballast Point Park (F7) see www.shfa.nsw.gov.au The Authority has two Sydney Visitor Centres (Freecall 1800 067 676): www.sydneyvisitorcentre.com at The Rocks (H8), cnr Argyle and Playfair Streets. Tel: 9240 8788; and at Darling Harbour (G9), 33 Wheat Road (behind IMAX Theatre), Tel: 9240 8788.

A Four Day Walk

Sydney Harbour is one of the great harbours of the world. This Circle Walk between the Harbour and Gladesville Bridges (marked in red on the map) takes four days and totals 59km. It can be walked continuously using overnight accommodation, from a base such as the City or Darling Harbour using public transport each day, or over any period of time.

Day 1 Circular Quay (H8) to Greenwich Wharf (E6) 14km 5hrs
Day 2 Greenwich Wharf (E6) to Woolwich Wharf (D/E5) 15.5km 5hrs 30mins
Day 3 Huntleys Point Wharf (A6) to Balmain East Wharf (F7) 14.5km 5hrs
Day 4 Balmain East Wharf (F7) to Circular Quay (H8) 15km 5hrs
Visit www.walkingsydney.net to download leaflets for each day of the four day version of the walk. Each leaflet has a detailed map (1:10K) and historical and general interest notes.

This is a magnificent walk focusing on the Harbour itself – the expanse of water; the bridges, islands, urban bushland and city skyline. The route winds along parts of the foreshore, into bays and on to headlands, through bush, along historic streets and over grand bridges.

A One or Two Day Walk

A shorter circle of 27km between the bridges can be walked in one or two days but bypasses many beautiful headlands. Two leaflets for this route are also downloadable.

Day 1 Milsions Point (A6) to Hunters Hill (B5) 13km 5hrs
Day 2 Hunters Hill (B5) to Milsions Point (H6) 14km 5hrs

Shorter Loop Walks

As most walkers want to walk for one to four hours and savour the experience, there are 35 identified individual loop walks based on public transport. Being circles, they can be commenced at any point. Each includes part of the main walk (shown in red) with additional sections (shown in green) to create loop walks. Each has its own walk downloadable leaflet. A list of all leaflets, with walking times and distances is shown in the adjacent column.

Circular Quay to The Great North Walk (GNW)

While many will want to start the 250 km GNW to Newcastle by the traditional ferry to Hunters Hill, others might want to walk over the Harbour Bridge and experience the rich natural beauty, urban spaces and historic features of the North Shore before joining the GNW and then on to Newcastle. This brochure provides three options, each shown in broken red. There is a separate leaflet for each option, see adjacent column.

A Discovery Kit for The Great North Walk (\$11.30) can be purchased from Sydney Map Sales (Lands Dept) in Queens Square, Tel: 9228 7720. The guidebook The Great North Walk 1988 is also available from libraries.

Parramatta and Lane Cove River Walks

This brochure shows the first parts of the Parramatta River Walk from Birchgrove (E6) and Woolwich (E5) wharves west to Parramatta. Two new brochures covering the balance of the route to Parramatta are being finalized (see Network diagram adjacent). The Lane Cove River Walk is from Woolwich wharf (E5) to Fullers Bridge (C1) on the west side and back on the east side to Greenwich wharf (E6).

The Walking Coastal Sydney & The Harbour Network

The Trunk walking routes of the Network and the other regional brochures are shown on the diagram in the adjacent column.

Sydney Harbour Federation Trust (Harbour Trust) Best Avenue, off Suakin Drive, Mosman 2088. Tel: 8969 2100. For information on Cockatoo Island (D6), Woolwich Dock & Parklands (D6), and the Trust's other sites in Sydney Harbour – see www.harbourtrust.gov.au and www.cockatooisland.gov.au

Step Inc Detailed walking maps of the Lane Cove Valley and Middle Harbour can be purchased from Step Inc and Map World - 280 Pitt Street, Sydney. (\$20 each – members \$15). See www.step.org.au

Willoughby City Council (E1 area) 31 Victor St, Chatswood 2067. Tel: 9777 1000 The following brochures are available from the Customer Service Centre, Library or downloadable from www.willoughby.nsw.gov.au: Round Willoughby Walk; Walking in Willoughby; Artarmon to Middle Harbour; Blue Gum Reserve, Explosives Reserve, Flat Rock Gully, Ferndale Reserve, Griffin Federation Trail, The Harold Reid Foreshore Track, Mowbray Park, North Arm Reserve, Railway to River Walk and the Sailors Bay Walking Track.

Books on Walking Sydney

There are many books on walking Sydney that are relevant to this Circle Walk available from libraries, bookshops and tourist offices. A Harbour Circle Walk is featured in Australian Geographic Jan-March 2006 edition.

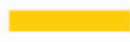
Annual Event – 7 Bridges Walk

This annual event was first held in October 2006. See Pedestrian Council of Australia www.7bridgeswalk.com.au and broadly follows the route of the two day version of the Harbour Circle. To cater for the thousands of participants, in some areas this event takes a parallel route through less fragile areas.

Signage

The solid red route on this brochure are being marked with the following internationally recognised yellow bar system.

straight ahead



wrong direction



turn right



turn left



Harbour Circle Walk Stages and Loop Walks

Individual leaflets with maps and notes downloadable from www.walkingsydney.net and www.walkingcoastalsydney.com.au

Harbour Circle Walk in Four Days

| | | | |
|-------|---|--------|-------------|
| Day 1 | Circular Quay to Greenwich Wharf | 14km | 5hrs |
| Day 2 | Greenwich Wharf to Woolwich Wharf | 15.5km | 5hrs 30mins |
| Day 3 | Huntleys Pt Wharf to Balmain East Wharf | 14.5km | 5hrs |
| Day 4 | Balmain East Wharf to Circular Quay | 15km | 5hrs |

Harbour Circle Walk in Two Days (or One)

| | | | |
|-------|-------------------------------|------|-------------|
| Day 1 | Circular Quay to Hunters Hill | 13km | 5hrs 30mins |
| Day 2 | Hunters Hill to Circular Quay | 14km | 5hrs 30mins |

Harbour Circle Loop Walks

(NB Numbers and letters generally relate to local government areas)

| | | | |
|-----|------------------------------|--------|-------------|
| N6 | Shell Cove to Milsions Point | 7km | 2hrs 45mins |
| N1 | Milsions Point to Waverton | 7km | 2hrs 45mins |
| N2 | Waverton to Wollstonecraft | 8.5km | 3hrs |
| LC1 | Gore Hill | 6km | 2hrs 15mins |
| LC2 | Greenwich | 4km | 1hr 30mins |
| LC3 | Northwood | 1.5km | 30mins |
| LC4 | Longueville | 3.75km | 1hr 30mins |
| LC5 | Riverview | 4.5km | 1hr 45mins |
| LC6 | Cunninghams Reach | 1km | 15mins |
| H1 | Hunters Hill | 4km | 1hr 30mins |
| H2 | Woolwich | 6km | 2hrs 15mins |
| H3 | St Josephs | 3.5km | 1hr 15mins |
| H4 | Huntleys | 3km | 1hr |
| C1 | Drummoyle | 3.5km | 1hr 15mins |
| C2 | Cockatoo Island | 2km | 1hr |
| C3 | Iron Cove | 7km | 2hrs |
| L1 | Rozelle / Balmain | 6km | 2hrs 30mins |
| L2 | Birchgrove | 6.5km | 2hrs 30mins |
| L3 | Balmain East | 4.5km | 1hr 45mins |
| S1 | Rozelle and Blackwattle Bays | 5km | 1hr 30mins |
| S2 | Pyrmont / Darling Harbour | 6.5km | 1hr 30mins |
| S3 | The Rocks | 4.5km | 1hr 30mins |
| S4 | Macquarie Street | 6.25km | 2hrs 30mins |
| S5 | Kings Cross | 3.5km | 1hr 30mins |

Loop Walks North of Harbour Circle

| | | | |
|----|--|--------|-------------|
| N3 | Wollstonecraft to Suspension Bridge | 7km | 2hrs 15mins |
| N4 | Suspension Bridge to Cremorne Junction | 8.5km | 2hrs 45mins |
| N5 | Cremorne Junction to Shell Cove | 5.5km | 1hr 45mins |
| W1 | St Leonards | 5.5km | 1hr 45mins |
| W2 | Northbridge | 7.5km | 2hrs 30mins |
| W3 | Castlecrag | 3.25km | 1hr 15mins |
| W4 | Middle Cove | 4km | 1hr 45mins |
| W5 | Castle Cove | 6km | 2hrs 30mins |
| W6 | Chatswood West | 5.5km | 2hrs |
| W7 | Lane Cove North | 8km | 3hrs |
| W8 | Chatswood | 6km | 2hrs |

Links to Great North Walk

| | | |
|--|--------|-------------|
| Circular Quay to Fig Tree Bridge via HC | 24km | 8hrs 30mins |
| Circular Quay to Gore Cove via HC then via Artarmon Station to GNW at Epping Rd Bridge | 21km | 7hrs 45mins |
| Circular Quay to Gore Cove via HC then via Chatswood Station to GNW at Lane Cove National Park | 21.5km | 8hrs 15mins |

Historic Museums/Buildings

| | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Balmain Watchhouse (F8) | Bellevue House (E9) |
| Cadman's Cottage (H8) | Carisbrook House (B4) |
| Cockatoo Island (D6) | Don Bank (G5) |
| Goat Island (F7) | Government House (H8) |
| Hunters Hill Museum (B5) | Justice & Police Museum (H8) |
| Mary McKillop Museum (G5) | Museum of Contemporary Art (H8) |
| Museum of Sydney (H8) | Maritime Museum (G9) |
| National Trust HQ (G8) | Nutcote (May Gibbs) (J6) |
| Observatory (G8) | Susannah Place (G/H8) |
| Parbury Ruins (G7) | The Rocks Discovery Museum (H8) |
| Vienna Cottage (B/C5) | Wendy Whiteley's Secret Garden (H6) |

Acknowledgments and Suggestions

These brochures have been developed by the Walking Volunteers. They are: Dominic Adshead, Jim and Therese Archibald, Bill Avery, Neil and Pamela Hardie, Phil Jenkyn, Caroline Minogue, Ian Napier, Bill (Co-ordinator) and Nedra Orme, Don and Laura Riddell, Leigh Shearer-Heriot, Cameron Sparks and Graham Spindler. The **Walking Volunteers** are a group of individuals who enjoy exploring areas on foot. They believe that walking is one of the most effective and economical ways to: combat obesity, fight pollution and reduce congestion on our roads. The Department of Planning has said "Their achievements are far reaching".

This brochure is funded by a partnership of Councils, State and Federal agencies working with the **Walking Volunteers** and the Sydway Street Directories mapping division.

Please send details of any errors, omissions, or suggestions to improve future editions or other similar publications to: Sydney Coastal Councils Group Inc. Level 12, Town Hall House, 456 Kent Street, Sydney 2000. Tel: 9426 7702. www.walkingcoastalsydney.com.au

Created by the Walking Volunteers. Anyone is free to use this brochure in whole or in part in any free publication, with an acknowledgement of the work of the Walking Volunteers.

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SEGMENT 2

WAVERTON to WOLLSTONECRAFT



SEGMENT 2

WAVERTON to WOLLSTONECRAFT



world class walking
it's exhilarating & healthy

A 45km network of walks in six segments circling North Sydney via parks, Aboriginal sites, waterfront, bushland and urban streetscapes, encompassing features of both natural and architectural heritage.



Berrys Bay from BP site lookout

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
| distance | main route 6.5km | return route 2km |
| time (approx) | 2hrs 30mins | 30mins |
| features | | |
| A Waverton Station | E Rock Engraving | I The Gore Cove Track |
| B Former BP site | F HMAS Waterhen | J Coal Mine |
| C Former Coal Loading Site | G Wollstonecraft Bay | |
| D Old Quarantine Depot | H Rock Engraving | |

SEGMENT 2

WAVERTON to WOLLSTONECRAFT



Start Main Route

Begin outside **Waverton Station** **A**, turning left to follow Bay Road towards Ball's Head. The area was once part of the 524 acre estate granted to Edward Wollstonecraft in 1825, and later inherited by his partner and brother-in-law, Alexander Berry. This road once led to their wharf and warehouse near Ball's Head. Turn left at Woolcott Street and right at Larkin Street. Just past Wood Street enter the park on the **former BP site** **B**. Until 1997 this dramatic headland with its steel walkways, viewing platforms and old tank stand sites was the BP oil terminal, established originally by the Anglo-Persian Oil Company in 1920. In the nineteenth century, it had been the site of Berry and Wollstonecraft's storehouse and was later used as a NSW military mine and torpedo base. It offers an overview of the marina area and the former Quarantine Depot, last of the maritime industries that have crowded this little peninsula. After exploring the park, walk out to Balls Head Road, turn uphill and then sharp left towards Balls Head.

The buildings, and the large wharf area nearby, are a former **coal loader** **C** established by the Sydney Bunkering Company during WWI to fuel electricity supply. The coal, brought from Newcastle on 'Sixty Milers', was hauled up on a cable railway, and later, by conveyor belts. The Loader shut down in 1993 and has been imaginatively redeveloped as public space. Continue on to Balls Head, which was named after Lieutenant Henry Lidgbird Ball, commander of HMS *Supply* in the First Fleet. It retains much of its bushland character despite extensive and exotic landscaping in the 1930s. Crumbling rustic fences and shelter sheds, built in that period by dole labourers, now mingle with native landscapes and modern walking paths and facilities. Together with Berry Island, the headland came into government hands from the Berry estate and was declared a reserve in 1926.

Where the road splits, follow the way left and about 150 metres along, take the road down past the colonial **Quarantine Depot** **D** with old wooden wharf. The depot was established in 1912 and is now used by the Maritime Museum. A track from the road (marked 'The Midden Track') follows above the water's edge as part of an extensive track system clambering up, down and around the headland. There are many tracks to explore. At the lookout near the carpark, with its fine views of Goat Island and the Harbour, Aboriginal axe grinding grooves can be seen near a little rock pool on an overhang. There are several important Aboriginal sites in the area.

At the western end of the car park, take the track to the highest point where an old semaphore mast once stood. Beyond the flagpole site, the track turns down steps towards the Harbour, passing overhangs once developed for picnic shelters. Turn inland again following below the road, before steps lead left down to a track and boardwalks to the lower level of the Coal Loader. The path enters one of four tunnels under the great platform of the Coal Loader. Beyond the tunnel, there are many options to explore but the main route leads out below the buildings, past greens, lookouts and a welland pond.

At its end, the roadway meets the road to HMAS Waterhen near the base entrance. The base, which houses Sydney's minehunters and diving units, was named after a WWII RAN destroyer lost at Tobruk in 1941. The current base was commissioned in 1962 and completely rebuilt in the mid-1990s. Turning right, uphill, this is an opportunity to explore the upper part of the Coal Loader site, with its buildings and facilities and an important Cammeraygal **engraving site** **E** showing a whale and other figures. Return to Balls Head Drive and follow it uphill to Horace Street, with its expansive Harbour view above **HMAS Waterhen** **F**.

At Horace St's end, steps drop alongside the navy base. About half-way down, take the path to the right below the units and across a 'bridge' over an old drain and down steps into **Oyster Bay Reserve** **G** and *Wandakiah*. This huge apartment development replaced the Oyster Bay Gas Works on an industrial site with a long history variously as sugar, gunpowder and kerosene works. Gas was produced here from coal from 1917 onwards. An immense, stone coal bunker several storeys high, dominated the waterfront until the housing development began. Gas production ceased in 1976 when natural gas was introduced, the works finally closing in 1983. Follow around the waterfront to the pedestrian bridge crossing to bush tracks and steps on the Wollstonecraft side. Once the main track is reached, turn left and then right to parallel Tryon Avenue above Ball's Head Bay to Shirley Road and down to Berry Island.

Tear-shaped Berry Island is another isthmus rather than an island, its present grassy "front yard" dating from the 1960s. The "island" itself is well-endowed with native trees and wildflowers. The 800 metre Gadyan Track circles the island, offering water access, plimsoll-line views of any tanker unloading at the Shell Oil Terminal across Gore Cove, and

a tour of the area's significance to and evidence of the Cammeraygal Aboriginal people. Interpretative signs provide information on native flora; the people and their activities and culture; and protect and interpret the major **rock engraving site** **H**. This site has a ten metre long creature – perhaps a spirit figure or a whale – and near it a small waterhole with axe-grinding grooves. Later, be sure to pause at the Harbour viewing platform on the island's eastern tip, in an area of shell middens.

From Berry Island, return to Shirley Road only as far as the **Gore Cove Track** **I** which starts on the left just beyond the District Fisheries Office. Passing through bushland behind the backyards of Milray Avenue, the track drops to a reclaimed area at the head of Berry Creek and Gore Cove. The stone embankments on the creek and cove may relate to a **small coal mine** **J** which once operated here. Sydney Harbour sits above substantial coal deposits and from 1897 to 1945 a large mine with its entrance in Birchgrove, operated under the Harbour. There is a bridge connection to Greenwich, but continue on the path towards Wollstonecraft station. The path follows the creek up through rainforest, at one point crossing into Lane Cove municipality before crossing again below the tall footbridge. At the top of the steps, turn left if continuing to Segment 3, or right if heading to Wollstonecraft or Waverton Stations.

Start Return Route

To return to Waverton Station take the underpass under the railway just before Wollstonecraft Station, and then turn left up the lane to Milner Crescent. Turn right and then left again at Shirley Road. Three hundred metres along, turn right down the steps of Belmont Lane, cross the end of leafy Newlands Lane and then climb left up steps to the junction of Rocklands Road and Ivy Street. Short Ivy Street leads into Brennan Park. Cross it to Carr Street and, at the next intersection angle right, down Crow's Nest Road to Waverton Station **A**.

Written and researched by the Walking Volunteers. For further North Sydney and regional walking materials go to the Customer Service Centre, Stanton Library, or www.northsydney.nsw.gov.au - click 'recreation', and www.walkingsydney.net. Funded by Sharing Sydney Harbour Access Program (SSHAP).

Photographs: Graham Spindler.



Walking NORTH SYDNEY

2009 Edition

WALKING ROUTES
Laneways, Bridges, Steps, etc

UNDER CONSTRUCTION / UNDER INVESTIGATION

CIRCLE / HISTORIC / PLAQUE WALKS

A HARBOUR CIRCLE / HARBOUR BRIDGE TO SPIT

HARBOUR BRIDGE TO GREAT NORTH WALK

TOILETS

VIEWPOINTS

Scale

0 100 200 300 400 500 600 700 800 900 1000
Metre

Sydney
version 15-2-3

This map is customised using maps published in the Sydney Street Directory of Greater Sydney Edition 2009.



There are many more maps in the Sydney Street Directory of Greater Sydney Edition 2009.



MAKE WORK A WALK-OVER it's exhilarating & healthy

The map tells you where you can find most laneways, steps, bridges and paths which will help you choose a way to walk to work, to the library, to the shops, to a picnic.

The North Sydney pathway system offers a healthy, environmentally friendly, relaxing and constantly interesting alternative to sitting in traffic or trying to find parking spaces en-route to work, school, shops and public facilities. Integrated with bus, train and ferry links, the pathways provide a practical route to most destinations within and beyond the North Sydney area.

All maps show details of destinations and parks to where you might want to go. They are large for easy reading.

This brochure lists all Council's brochures giving you more detailed information on specific walks to explore North Sydney's heritage, bushlands, parks and other places of interest. There are also details of adjoining Councils, National Parks and Harbour Trust publications.

North Sydney pedestrian routes are part of a network of trunk route paths linked to adjacent municipalities, other parts of Sydney and beyond. Walk to Neutral Bay, or walk to Newcastle – it's all possible!

North Shore Historical Society Walks

- H1 Kirribilli from Milsons Point Station (K17)
- H2 Lavender Bay to Blues Point (H17)
- H3 North Sydney Post Office to Waverton (J14-E14)
- H4 Waverton Station to Balls Head (E14-I8)
- H5 Waverton Station to Berry Island & Wollstonecraft Station (E14-C11)
- H6 North Sydney, to Kurraba Pt & Military Rd (J15-P11)
- H7 North Sydney Post Office to Ridge Street and Victoria Cross (J15-J11)
- H8 Neutral Bay Post Office to Cremorne and Military Road (P11-T18)
- H9 Crows Nest – site of old Mater Hospital to St Leonards Park (G10-L10)
- H10 Cammeray – St Thomas Rest Park (Cemetery to Old Tram Depot) (J8-Q5)

Heritage Series Leaflets (upstairs, Stanton Library)

Walks indicated by a '*'. Historical background only is provided in the other heritage leaflets. Further leaflets are being written and others updated.

- 1 Aboriginal Tribes of the Lower North Shore
- 2 Local Government comes to the North Shore
- 3 'Firsts' in North Sydney
- 4 Local History Museums
- 5 Ivycliffe Villa
- 6 Holtermann at Lavender Bay
- 7 Greenwood School
- 8 Luna Park
- 9 Boat Building in North Sydney
- 10 Conrad Martens and North Sydney
- 11 The Independent Theatre
- 12 Sydney Harbour Bridge
- 13 Suspension Bridge
- 14 Memorials to World War 1
- 15 A Walking Tour of Historic North Sydney *
- 16 St Leonards Park
- 17 A Rift through North Sydney
- 18 40 years of the Warringah Expressway
- 19 Waverton Park
- 20 Stanton Library
- 21 St Thomas Rest Park – a walk through history *

All the following free publications are available from Stanton Library or the Customer Service Centre, and downloadable from www.northsydney.nsw.gov.au click 'recreation'. The references are to the grid on the map.

Many walking brochures for adjoining areas are also available at Stanton Library.

North Sydney Circle Walks

45 kms of connecting circles through the sights and history of North Sydney. Note also relevant Heritage Series leaflets.

- C1 Milsons Point to Waverton (K17-E14)
- C2 Waverton to Wollstonecraft (E14-C11)
- C3 Wollstonecraft to Suspension Bridge (C11-L5)
- C4 Suspension Bridge to Cremorne Junction (L5-S9)
- C5 Cremorne Junction to Shell Cove (S9-Q14)
- C6 Shell Cove to Milsons Point (Q14-K17)

Plaque Walks – the bronze plaques marking historic places.

- Walk 1 McMahon's Point to Waverton (H18-D17)
- Walk 2 Cammeray to Lavender Bay (H7-J16)
- Walk 3 Neutral Bay to Kirribilli (N15-K19)
- Walk 4 Military Road to Cremorne Point (P11-S17)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 22 Picture Theatres of North Sydney | 41 Waverton Peninsula Heritage Walk * |
| 23 Greycliffe | 42 Faces of Federation Heritage Walk * |
| 24 Graythwaite | 43 Set in Stone – Heritage Walk * |
| 25 Harold Cazneaux | 44 Taking the Ferry |
| 26 The World of May Gibbs | 45 Kurraba Point |
| 27 Commodore Goodenough | 46 From Milson to Medium Density – Kirribilli Walk * |
| 28 Reverend William Braithwaite Clarke | 47 From Filigree to Federation – Holtermann Estate Walk * |
| 29 Medical Services Heritage Walk | 48 From Track to Tarmac – McMahon's Point Walk * |
| 30 Cremorne Point Heritage Walk * | 49 St Thomas Rest Park – Sailors, Soldiers and Civil Servants |
| 40 North Sydney Oval Heritage Walk * | |

Headland/Bushland Walks

- Harbour Foreshore Bushwalks Brochure
- Cremorne Point Foreshore Walk (S16)
- The Gadyan Track – Berry Island (B15)
- Graythwaite Walking Tracks (G15)
- Flat Rock Gully Tracks (H3 – N5) – being updated – available online (Willoughby)

Adjoining Councils, National Parks & Harbour Trust Walks

There are links to these websites on the North Sydney website (see also Walking Sydney Harbour & Coast series below). Many of these and the following brochures are also at Stanton Library.

Lane Cove Council: www.lanecove.nsw.gov.au or Library
The Walks of Lane Cove (free), Bushwalks Around Lane Cove (\$4.40), Exploring Historic Lane Cove (\$13.20)

Mosman Council: www.mosman.nsw.gov.au or Library
Your Walking Guide to Mosman (10 walks), Balmoral Self-Guided Heritage Walk, Walking Taronga to Balmoral

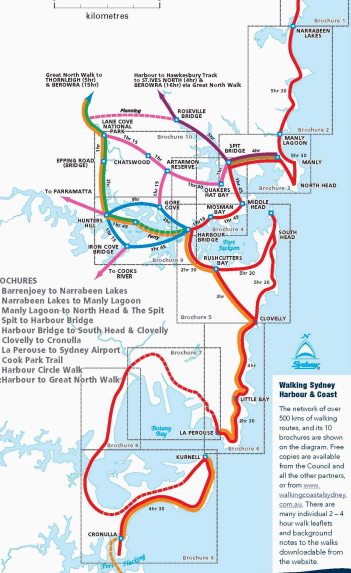
Approximate Walking Times in Minutes



The Trunk Walking Routes of Sydney Coast and Harbour

- Coastal Walk
- Harbour Circle Walk
- Great North Walk
- Federation Track
- Spit to Manly Walk
- Harbour to Hawkesbury Track
- Other tracks

Approximate Walking Times in Hours and Minutes
e.g. 1 hour 45 minutes = 1hr 45



Willoughby City Council: www.willoughby.nsw.gov.au or Library. Walking brochures: Artarmon to Middle Harbour, Blue Gum Reserve, Castlecrag, Explosives Reserve, Flat Rock Gully, Ferndale Reserve, Galuwa Inyun Bulga Garadi Trail, Griffin Federation Trail, Harold Reid Foreshore, Mowbray Park, North Arm, Railway to River, Commuting to Chatswood by Bicycle.

National Parks & Wildlife Service: www.nationalparks.com.au click 'Middle Head'. Walking Taronga to Balmoral. Guided Tours of Middle Head – bookings 9247-5033

Sydney Harbour Federation Trust (Harbour Trust): www.harbourtrust.gov.au. Walking Taronga to Balmoral. Tours and information Middle Head, Georges Heights, Chowder Bay & HMAS Platypus site.

North Sydney Pedestrian Signage

- North Sydney is progressively marking all public laneways, shared roads (10 kph) and pedestrian routes with indicators and directions and installing location maps in blue holders.
- Future signage will be in the new Council colours.



Suggestions & Corrections

This second edition of *Walking North Sydney* 2009 has been compiled by the Walking Volunteers (particularly Caroline Minogue and Bill Orme) working with the North Sydney Pedestrian Committee and Sydway Street Directories. Photography by Warwick Orme. Design by Fisheye, Sydney. Please let the council know of any errors, omissions or suggestions for improvements:

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