

**Submission
No 314**

INQUIRY INTO CROWN LAND IN NEW SOUTH WALES

Name: Ms Emma Brooks Maher

Date received: 24 July 2016

Dear GPSCNo.6 -- Here is my personal submission to the Parliamentary Inquiry into Crown Lands, this being a revised version of the points a raised in response to the 2014 White Paper call for comments on proposed new legislation. The points put forward in my answers to the Questions posed then are equally relevant to the Terms of Reference ;given for this 2016 Inquiry. As you read my submission you will find that although now necessarily in the same order, I do address issues re scope, management and active use of Crown Lands, as well as problems regarding community access and use, and various considerations re commercial usage and sale of Crown Lands. I also offer some ideas about future management programs, based on the belief that the best protection for Crown Lands is to ensure community involvement. Since the 2014 exercise did not touch on the question of aboriginal involvement and/or claims, comment on this is lacking in my submission. So let me state here that I firmly believe that this aspect of Crown Land is a vital "missing link" and the current backlog of ALC claims should be addressed as a matter of urgency. You will see that I include two further 'supplementary' files, written by myself as President of The Haberfield Association Inc, and my husband Gerry Brooks as its Treasurer. I add these now in 2016 because I believe the practical information therein will be useful to the Inquiry, particularly about recognition of heritage values (in every sense of that word, both cultural and financial . Other than a lapsed weblink on p.5, the comments remain as pertinent now as they were when prepared for the White Paper proposals two years ago. Congratulations to The Hon Paul Green MLC and all GPSCNo.6 committee-members for undertaking this long-overdue Inquiry, and trust that my input will assist. I would be delighted to provide further material if required - copious documentation is available from my Yasmar investigations. And I'd be only too happy if called to a Hearing to provide direct answers to your queries. With thanks, and regards - EMMA. Emma Brooks Maher