

randwick environmental park



interesting facts

- There are 13 hectares of parkland, bushland and wetland.
- It is the only park in Randwick City that is zoned 7- Environmental Protection.
- 92 species of indigenous plants have been identified to date
- Four plant species recorded here are found at only one other location in the Eastern Suburbs.
- Randwick Environmental Park contains 3.6 hectares of Eastern Suburbs Banksia Scrub (ESBS), an endangered ecological community.
- Randwick Environmental Park is home to the endangered Sunshine Wattle.
- The bushland and wetland provides valuable habitat for native birds, lizards, frogs and mammals.
- Randwick Environmental Park is one of the few non-coastal bushland reserves of the eastern suburbs.



Eastern Suburbs Banksia Scrub

history

The park was originally part of the Randwick Army Barracks. During World War 1 the barracks included a rifle range and horse riding training ground. The wetland at this time was a smaller, shallower depression roughly located in the centre of the southern circular section of the current wetland.

Aerial photographs from 1930 onwards provide interesting evidence of the land use of the park area.

1930s

The wetland is a roughly circular depression in the current location of the southern half but it appears to have been mechanically altered around its banks. A new housing estate (Holmes St Maroubra) is constructed south of the reserve.

1940s

Considerable changes take place as World War 2 facilities are constructed; rows of large storage sheds are erected across the eastern part of the Randwick Barracks, three sheds covering the area the Community Centre now occupies.

1950s

The bushland is cleared and the sandhills driven over by vehicles. The wetland is further excavated and expanded to the north.

1960s

Stormwater is flowing into the wetland from the south east and the southern side of the wetland is defined with a dam wall. A new sewer line is installed running south from Bundock Street to Henning Street (now under the concrete path and Burragulung Street). The Housing Department estate is built north east of the Reserve.

1970s

The oval playing field, now the picnic area, is created. The bushland is beginning to regenerate on the slopes. The stormwater inlet in the south east corner of the wetland is formalised to drain the new housing area south east of the reserve on the Maroubra hill.

1980s

Moverly Green housing estate is built to the east of the reserve.

1990s

The large sheds to the west are gradually removed leaving large slabs of concrete.

2000 – 2010

A re-development process was commenced by the Department of Defence. Remnant bushland on Bundock Street and south west of the wetland was cleared. Randwick City Council defended the conservation values of the park, ensuring the remaining bushland was preserved, zoned the bushland for environmental protection and conditioned the Randwick Barracks' development to protect the environmental values of the reserve.

2010

Randwick Environmental Park was transferred from Commonwealth to Randwick City Council ownership and the reserve was opened for the enjoyment of the community and conservation of its flora and fauna.



Acacia terminalis



Aerial photo 1930



Aerial photo 1955



Aerial photo 1975



Aerial photo 1999



Aerial photo 2009