



HUNTER'S HILL COUNCIL

SIGNIFICANT TREE REGISTER

TREE PROFILE SHEET

1. LOCATION OF PROPERTY

Street: 10 Mount Street
Suburb: Hunters Hill
Post Code: 2110
GPS: Co ordinates : Longitude 151.1496528 Latitude -33.83502928
Other: Located on corner of Mount and Church Street



2. DETAILS

Listed Significant Trees:

Botanical Name	Common Name
<i>Eucalyptus saligna</i>	Sydney Blue Gum

Public or Private Type: Private
Group or Individual: Individual
Date of Assessment/Inspection: 19.11.2015

3. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The *Eucalyptus saligna* (Sydney Blue Gum) is regarded as significant in terms of its size and makes an important visual contribution to the urban landscape. The tree is considered to have landmark qualities due to its prominent location on the main thoroughfare into the Hunters Hill peninsula (*aesthetic value*).

The Sydney Blue Gum serves as a reminder to the wide spread vegetation and structural clearing that occurred throughout Hunters Hill during the early 1960s. The tree is associated with a specific period of landscape design and is indicative of the Australian trend that started during the 1950's (*historic value*).

The Eucalyptus saligna (Sydney Blue Gum) is considered to have local significance in terms of aesthetic and historic value.

4. IMAGES



5. SIGNIFICANT ATTRIBUTES

Cultural/Social/Commemorative Historic Botanical/Scientific Ecological Visual/Aesthetic

6. SIGNIFICANT LEVELS

Local State National

7. BACKGROUND

The *Eucalyptus saligna* (Sydney Blue Gum) is located on the corner of Mount and Church Streets, Hunters Hill. The scheduled tree is within the front garden area of the unit block at 10 Mount Street.

In the 1960s, residential development accelerated throughout Hunters Hill and the suburb became even closer to the city when a major expressway was constructed. The expressway cut across the peninsula and linked the new Gladesville Bridge over the Parramatta River with the new Figtree Bridge over the Lane Cove River. Whilst the expressway made access to the city easier it caused the demolition of many historic buildings and removal of much vegetation.

Sandstone houses near the expressway, in Church Street, were demolished and replaced by two-storey home-unit buildings. 'Brynnalt', a fine stone house which stood on the corner of Church and Mount Streets, was demolished in 1964. A complex of two bedroom units were constructed on the site. The unit blocks were also called 'Brynnalt'; a homage to the sites former estate. A newspaper advertisement from 1965 for the sale of the units describes the luxury two bedroom units 'designed to blend with the natural beauty of this garden suburb. Trees of the original estate were retained wherever possible and many other trees and shrubs planted.' It is known that two mature oak trees, which stood within the grounds of the estate, were removed as part of the demolition. ¹

The newspaper advertisement also provides a sketch of the units set within an established streetscape setting. It is interesting to note the use of what appears to be Australian native trees within the sketch. A tree, similar in habit to a Sydney Blue Gum, is shown in the location of the subject tree.

Native trees gained popularity during the 1940s to 1950s as gardeners began to embrace a new Australian garden style being promoted by local designers including Betty Maloney and Edna Walling. The new approach became part of a wider focus on environmental issues during the 1960s to 1970s. Since this time, numerous Eucalyptus and Corymbia species have combined with other Australian natives to create a new aesthetic layer in Hunters Hill.

Sydney Blue Gum is a tall, fast growing species predominantly occurring in wet sclerophyll forests within 120 km of the coast in mostly warm humid climates. The species extends north from near Batemans Bay on the south coast of New South Wales to north of Brisbane in Queensland.

References:

¹ Sherry, Beverley, 1989, *Hunter's Hill Australia's Oldest Garden Estate*, Sydney, pg 99

8. ADDITIONAL IMAGES



IMAGE SOURCE:

The Sydney Morning Herald, New South Wales, Page 4, April 23, 1966