



HUNTER'S HILL COUNCIL

SIGNIFICANT TREE REGISTER

TREE PROFILE SHEET

1. LOCATION OF PROPERTY

House No: 29 & 31
 Street: Bonnefin Road
 Suburb: Hunters Hill
 Post Code: 2110
 GPS Co ordinates : northing 6255333.348,
 easting 28117.036



2. DETAILS

Listed Significant Trees:

Botanical Name	Common Name
<i>Eucalyptus pilularis</i>	(Blackbutt)
multiple specimens	

Public or Private Type: Private
 Group or Individual: Group
 Date of Assessment/Inspection: 30.09.2014

3. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The *Eucalyptus pilularis* (Blackbutt) located along the Lane Cove River foreshore form part of a locally significant vegetation corridor. The scheduled trees are believed to be a remnant of the original community rather than cultivated specimens (*ecological, botanical and scientific value*).

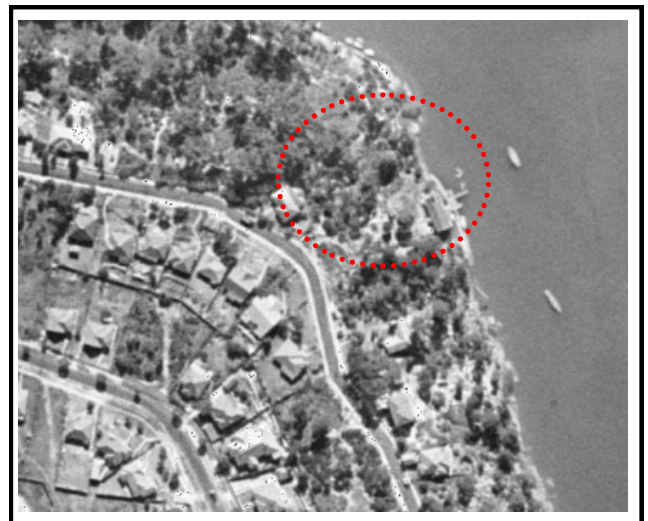
The Blackbutt are a vital component of the visual quality of the Lane Cove River foreshore (*aesthetic value*).

The Blackbutt make an important contribution to the unique sense of place and historic setting for the Bonnefin Boatshed and are associated with the increase in awareness surrounding bush regeneration from the 1970's onwards (*historic value*).

The *Eucalyptus pilularis* (Blackbutt) are considered to have group significant at a local level in terms of ecological, botanical and scientific, aesthetic and historic value.

4. IMAGES

IMAGE SOURCE: (RTA, From the Skies, 1943)





29 & 31 BONNEFIN ROAD, HUNTERS HILL - SIGNIFICANT TREE REGISTER

5. SIGNIFICANCE ATTRIBUTES

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

6. SIGNIFICANCE LEVEL

Local State National

7. BACKGROUND

The sites of 29 & 31 Bonnefin Road, Hunters Hill are located with direct river frontage to Lane Cove River and are immediately south of Boronia Park.

The Hunters Hill Land Division Map (1831-1844)¹ shows this part of Bonnefin Road under the ownership of F.A Hayne. F.A Hayne purchased a 30 acre lot in 1835.² From 1889-90 the 30 acres is recorded as under the ownership of mathematical instrument maker Angelo Tornaghi under the title 'Italia' Estate. Tornaghi, who was from Milan, also owned and resided at 31 Madeline Street Hunters Hill (Milano).

In 1908, the building on the waterfront at 31 Bonnefin Road was licensed by the Maritime Services Board as Dempsey's Boatshed and was being used for small boat-building works. A later name was Bonnefin Boatshed. The license was relinquished in 1956 and the building converted for residential use.³

'Italia' Estate appears to be first offered for subdivision in 1886. Bonnefin Road then being called Milano Street. The advertisement notice (refer to 8. Additional Images) boasts of charming views of Lane Cove River and overlooking the Field of Mars Common. The subdivision appears to have been unsuccessful as the land was offered again for subdivision in 1906. Bonnefin Road appears on the notice unnamed and Boronia Avenue marked out as 'new government road'.

In 1804, Governor King set aside the Field of Mars Common for the use by the local community to run stock and for firewood collection. The 5050 acre Field of Mars Common remained as bushland until 1885 when it was subdivided. An area of sixty-two acres and two roods remained bushland, and in 1887, under the Public Parks Act was dedicated for public recreation, and to be known as Boronia Park.

Boronia Park Reserve is now regarded as the best place in Hunters Hill to gain an idea of the pre-European landscape, as it has the largest intact stretch of bushland. The Park is characterised by remnant stands of Sydney Turpentine-Ironbark Forest (STIF); an endangered ecological community (Schedule 2 of the Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995). *Eucalyptus pilularis* (Blackbutt) are characteristic of the open-forest plant community and occur in the more sheltered aspect of the sandstone slopes.

The Lane Cove River foreshore area stretching along Bonnefin Road, and incorporating 29 and 31 Bonnefin Road, includes an important corridor of *Eucalyptus pilularis* (Blackbutt). One large and significant specimen is located within 31 Bonnefin Road. The adjacent 29 Bonnefin Road supports two significant specimens. Numerous smaller specimens are spread over the two sites and additional specimens extend further along the Lane Cove River foreshore area. Due to access constraints, only the trees across the two listed sites have been reviewed as part of this assessment. Further investigation should be undertaken for additional *Eucalyptus pilularis* (Blackbutt) occurring along the Lane Cove River foreshore zone.

An aerial image of the area in 1943 shows the boatshed set within open vegetation. The area to the north-west of the site appears as heavily vegetated and would be the southern stretch of Boronia Park. No prominent trees are evident in the 1943 aerial in the area immediately surrounding Bonnefin Boatshed. One small tree is visible to the rear of the boatshed; generally the land appears fairly cleared. The area to the south, now 29 Bonnefin Road, is vegetated however it is difficult to determine whether there are any sizable trees.

The scheduled trees are considered to be regrowth rather than cultural plantings; clearing would have occurred during the 19th century. Some of the smaller specimens are likely to be as young as 30 years.

References:

¹Watkin & Watkin (1886) *Italia Estate, Hunters Hill, Lane Cove River* [cartographic material]; MAP Folder 76, LFSP 1110. Part 2, National Library Australia, accessed 01.10.14 <http://nla.gov.au/nla.map-lfsp1110-s2>

²Meredith Walker (1984) *Hunters Hill Heritage Study: Heritage & Character Report*, Hunters Hill Council

³Don Godden & Associates (1989) *Hunters Hill Heritage Properties*, NSW



29 & 31 BONNEFIN ROAD, HUNTERS HILL - SIGNIFICANT TREE REGISTER

8. ADDITIONAL IMAGES

IMAGE SOURCE: National Library Australia, Italia Estate Subdivision, 1886

ITALIA ESTATE
HUNTERS HILL
LANE COVE RIVER

Extensive & uninterrupted views & deep water frontages to
LANE COVE RIVER & OVERLOOKING FIELD or MARS COMMON

The ESTATE adjoins & has access to the **PUBLIC PARK & RECREATION GROUND 63 acres in extent.**

Auction Sale on the GROUND, SAT^Y 27TH FEB. 1886, at 3 P.M.
WATKIN & WATKIN TICKETS for Sale or inspection of the LAND obtainable from WATKIN & WATKIN 281, PITT ST A. TORRACHI, 238, George St or PIKE & OWEN, 30, PITT ST

TERMS
 10% Deposit; Balance by Quarterly Payments extending over 3 Years at 6% with right to pay off at any time
PURCHASERS paying Cash within 1 month 2 1/2% DISCOUNT

PIKE AND OWEN
 LICENSED SURVEYORS
 CLADSTONE CHAMBERS 30 PITT ST

HAZLEWOOD