



HUNTER'S HILL COUNCIL

SIGNIFICANT TREE REGISTER

TREE PROFILE SHEET

1. LOCATION OF PROPERTY

House No: 6A
Street: View Street
Suburb: Woolwich
Post Code: 2110
GPS Co ordinates : northing 6254538.434, easting 331260.087



2. DETAILS

Listed Significant Trees:

Botanical Name	Common Name
<i>Ficus superba var. henniana</i>	Deciduous Fig

Public or Private Type: Private

Group or Individual: Individual

Date of Assessment/Inspection: 22.07.2014

3. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The *Ficus superba var. henniana* (Deciduous Fig) is associated with the 1884 residence at 6 View Street and the early phase of development of the area (historic value).

The Deciduous Fig is regarded as an outstanding example of the taxon with significant scale and exceptional proportions. The specimen tree has rarity value; mature examples of the species are unusual for the Hunters Hill Municipality. The Deciduous Fig makes an outstanding contribution to the scenic quality of Lane Cove River (*aesthetic value and botanic value*).

The *Ficus superba var. henniana* (Deciduous Fig) is considered to have individual significance at a local level in terms of historic, aesthetic and botanic value.

4. IMAGES

IMAGE SOURCE: RTA, From the Skies, 1943





6A VIEW STREET, WOOLWICH — SIGNIFICANT TREE REGISTER

5. SIGNIFICANCE ATTRIBUTES

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

6. SIGNIFICANCE LEVEL

Local State National

7. BACKGROUND

The *Ficus superba* var. *henniana* (Deciduous Fig) is located in the rear garden area of 6A View Street, Woolwich, on the foreshore area of Lane Cove River.

The site at 6A View Street is located to the rear of 6 View Street and was once part of the same estate. The site at 6 View Street is listed in the Hunters Hill Local Environment Plan (2012) Schedule 5 (Item I145). Both sites stand on part of the Samuel Onions original grant of 1835. The grant was subdivided, probably in the late 1870s or early 1880, during the boom period of speculation and subdivision. The house (6 View Street) is shown on a survey plan dated 1884, facing the Lane Cove River. ¹

Aerial photos of 1943 show the site prior to the contemporary subdivision with what is thought to be the Deciduous Fig clearly visible. The size of the specimen in 1943 suggests a possible planting date of the late 1800s to early 1900s.

Ficus superba var. *henniana* (Deciduous Fig) is a strangler fig only occurring in Australia. The species grows in Australia from Milton, New South Wales to northern Queensland and the Northern Territory. The species habitat is riverine, littoral or the drier forms of rainforest.²

Like other strangler figs it is a hemi-epiphyte. A hemi-epiphyte is a plant that spends part of its life cycle as an epiphyte. The seeds of primary hemi-epiphytes germinate in the canopy and initially live epiphytically. They send roots downward, and these roots eventually make contact with the ground. The base of the Deciduous Fig is often buttressed, but not as prominently as with the Moreton Bay Fig.

The specimen is considered an outstanding example of the taxon with an expansive canopy of approximately 20 metres in diameter and 17 metres in height.

The Deciduous Fig is frequently noted as being planted during the latter part of the nineteenth century. It is considerably less common than the Moreton Bay Fig and Port Jackson Fig found throughout Hunters Hill. Mature examples of this species are rare in the Hunters Hill Municipality. It is believed to be one of the largest and oldest specimens of this taxon in the area.

The Deciduous Fig is a prominent tree of significant scale and exceptional proportions; the specimen is considered to have excellent landmark qualities. The Deciduous Fig makes an outstanding contribution to the scenic quality of Lane Cove River.

References:

¹Hunters Hill Council, Heritage LEP Files, Hunters Hill Council.

²Floyd, A.G., *Rainforest Trees of Mainland South-eastern Australia*, Inkata Press 2008, ISBN 978-0-9589436-7-3 page 233