



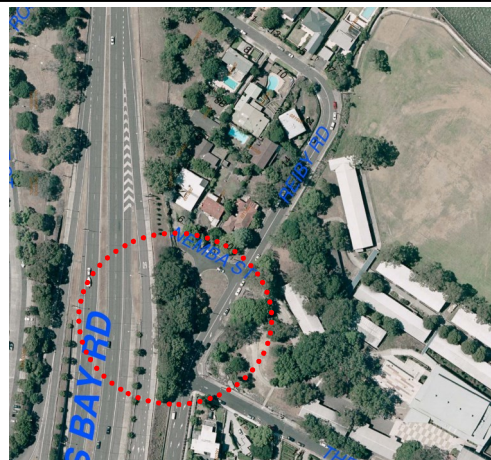
# HUNTER'S HILL COUNCIL

## SIGNIFICANT TREE REGISTER

### TREE PROFILE SHEET

#### 1. LOCATION OF PROPERTY

Street: Nemba Street  
Suburb: Hunters Hill  
Post Code: 2110  
GPS Co ordinates : northing 6254829.112, easting 328491.199  
Other: Located on embankment adjacent to Burns Bay Road



#### 2. DETAILS

Listed Significant Trees:

Botanical Name	Common Name
<i>Angophora costata</i>	Sydney Red Gum
multiple specimens	

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

#### 3. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

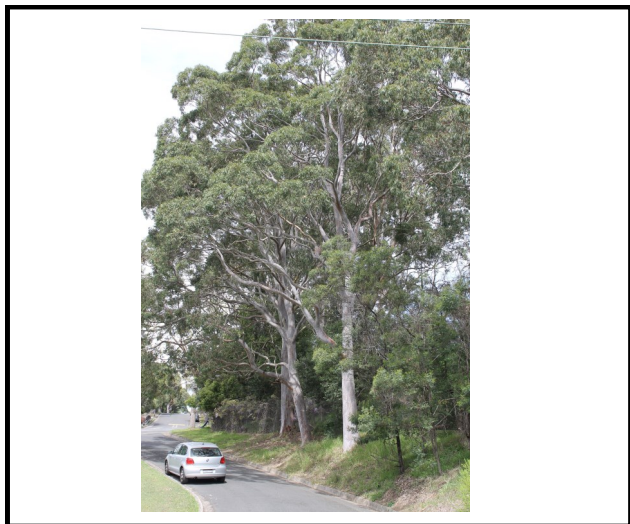
The grove of *Angophora costatas* (Sydney Red Gums) have representative value as a reflection of the areas bushland prior to the land clearing that occurred in the early 1960s. The trees provide an important symbolic connection to the vegetation that would have once graced the Lane Cove River foreshores (*botanic/scientific and ecological value*).

The Sydney Red Gums have emerged and are growing in a heavily disturbed and altered landscape. Some of the trees have also reached substantial proportions and will continue to grow, and are considered visually significant in the local context (*aesthetic value*).

The Sydney Red Gums serve as a marker to 'Nemba' and a reminder to the wide spread vegetation and structural clearing that occurred during the early 1960s (*historic value*).

The *Angophora costatas* (Sydney Red Gums) are considered to have collective significance at a local level in terms of aesthetic, historic, botanic/scientific and ecological value.

#### 4. IMAGES





## NEMBA STREET, HUNTERS HILL - SIGNIFICANT TREE REGISTER

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### 5. SIGNIFICANCE ATTRIBUTES

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

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### 6. SIGNIFICANCE LEVEL

Local  State  National

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### 7. BACKGROUND

The stand of *Angophora costata* (Sydney Red Gums) are scattered along the Nemba Street road reserve adjacent to Burns Bay Road (North-Western Expressway).

Demolition of many historic buildings in Hunters Hill was sanctioned by the government in the early 1960s when the expressway was built. Among the numerous buildings demolished was 'Nemba' (c.1881), one of Didier Joubert's cottages.

'Nemba' was located to the south of 'St Malo' and Mary Reibey's house on the 200 acre 'Figtree Farm' at Hunters Hill. The land was purchased by Didier Joubert (c1847) from Mary Reibey. In a research paper by Greg Davis in 2013 (St Malo: The battle to save a classic home)<sup>1</sup>, the location of 'Nemba' may be seen in relation to the expressway. The expressway passed through the entire 'Nemba' grounds. The grove of Sydney Red Gums is not visible in the 1943 image. Any vegetation around 'Nemba' and extending along the path of the expressway would have been extensively cleared. It is difficult to determine if the species was formerly part of the 'Nemba' grounds. Analysis of the 1943 images show established trees surrounding the cottage. The broad canopy of one specimen suggests a Fig Tree.

The dominant vegetation community of this area would have been Coastal Sandstone Foreshore Forest. Coastal Sandstone Foreshore Forests occur on sheltered sandstone slopes along the foreshores of Sydney's major waterways and coastal escarpments. It is an open forest with a moist shrub layer and a ground cover of ferns, rushes and grasses. The canopy can be dominated by pure stands of *Angophora costata* (Sydney Red Gum), though more regularly this is found in combination with other tree species.<sup>2</sup>

Sydney Red Gum seedlings naturally regenerate from seed-fall. The species also has a lignotuber which can aid in regeneration. It is considered likely that the Sydney Red Gums that form the grove are regenerated specimens post-clearing of the land for the expressway.

A number of the specimens are considered excellent examples of the species in terms of size and form. Smaller trees also form the grove and are likely to be significant specimens in time. Collectively they have representative value as a reflection of the area's bushland prior to land clearing and have emerged and are growing in a heavily disturbed and altered landscape.

The grove serves as a marker to 'Nemba' and a reminder to the wide spread vegetation and structural clearing that occurred during the early 1960s.

The grove has group significance at the local level for its contribution to biodiversity and provides an important symbolic connection to the vegetation that would have once graced the Lane Cove River foreshores. Some of the trees have also reached substantial proportions and will continue to grow, and are considered visually significant in the local context.

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#### References:

<sup>1</sup>Davis Greg (2013), *St Malo: The battle to save a classic home*, NSW

<sup>2</sup>NSW Government Environment and Heritage (2014), *The native vegetation of the Sydney metropolitan area*, NSW Government, pg 137

## 8. ADDITIONAL IMAGES

IMAGE SOURCE: Greg Davis , 2013



Diagram showing the devastation caused by the construction of the North-Western Expressway through Hunters Hill. Left is 1943 view and right is 2012. 1 St Malo, 2 Mary Reibey's House, 3 Figtree House, 4 St Mark's Chapel. (Source Greg Davis (2013) 'St Malo: The battle to save a classic home'), 5 Location of 'Nemba', 6 Location of Grove