

Attachment B

Early Engagement Report

Engagement report - Register of significant trees



Contents

Background	3
Engagement Summary.....	4
Purpose of the engagement	4
Submissions received during consultation.....	4
Key findings.....	5
General submissions	5
Tree nominations and recommended outcome	5
Engagement activities	19
Overview of engagement.....	19
Sydney Your Say page	20
Interactive map	21
Sydney Your Say notification	22
Notification letter	23

Background

The Register of Significant Trees (the Register) identifies and celebrates the importance of significant trees in the City's evolving landscape. It provides a strategic framework for their management and protection, ensuring these important natural assets are protected and appreciated by current and future generations.

In 2005, Council adopted its first Register of Significant Trees, with a total of 1,931 trees listed. In 2013, Council adopted the most recent version of the Register, which included a total of 2,668 trees, and resolved that a review of the Register be undertaken in 10 years time.

For trees to be listed on the draft Register, they must meet our tree-focused assessment criteria. Significance is assessed across 6 categories, noting each category includes detailed criteria to guide consistent and thorough evaluation;

1. Visual
2. Botanical
3. Ecological
4. Historical
5. Social/cultural
6. Commemorative

A tree listed on the Register also does not mean it can never be removed, however it does ensure any proposals affecting it receive careful, case-by-case review, considering the long-term health, public benefit and significance.

Trees not included in the draft Register are still recognised as valuable and remain protected under various planning controls. These include the State Environmental Planning Policy (Biodiversity and Conservation) 2021, as well as our Local Environmental Plan and Development Control Plan, which together establish comprehensive requirements for tree protection throughout our area.

From 10 March to 7 April 2025, we asked the community for feedback on our Register of Significant Trees.

Engagement Summary

Purpose of the engagement

The purpose of the engagement was to ask the community to provide:

- nominations to the City's Register of Significant Trees
 - feedback on any existing trees on the current Register.
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Submissions received during consultation

We received a total of 73 submissions via an online survey and emailed submissions.

The Sydney Your Say page was visited 445 times during the consultation period.

Key findings

General submissions

One submission received was general in nature, and not focused on specific trees / sites, as summarised below.

General comments	Total	City of Sydney Response
Considers that Sydney's urban environment has become overly dominated by trees, leading to the loss of many iconic views that once defined the city's character. While valuing trees for their cultural, environmental, and aesthetic benefits, feels that these are better suited to rural areas. In the city, excessive tree growth has obscured important vistas – such as the view from Governor Phillip Lookout at Beacons Hill - which used to offer sweeping panoramas but now provides only glimpses. Open views should be prioritized to maintain Sydney's unique sense of place.	1	Noted. We recognise the importance of iconic views and urban character, but also strongly supports the role of trees in creating a healthy, liveable city. While we understand concerns about view loss, the areas referenced lie outside the City's local government area, and within our LGA, tree planting is carefully planned to balance the extensive benefits they provide along with other urban design and heritage values.

Tree nominations and recommended outcome

Specific tree/s or site nominations were received and assessed. Nominations and the recommended assessment outcome have been listed alphabetically below, by suburb then location.

Alexandria

Location	Number of Trees	Nomination assessment	Nomination Support (Y/N)
Alexandria Park	1	The Eucalyptus camaludensis (River Red Gum) is already listed in the current Register.	N/A
Dunning Avenue	4	The Melaleuca quinquenervia (Broad-leaved Paperbark) is a commonly used street tree species throughout the City of Sydney local government area and has been widely planted in public landscapes due to its hardiness and adaptability. The specimens in question are relatively small and appear to date from the late 1990s. They do not demonstrate any particular visual, historic, or botanical significance beyond their typical use in urban planting schemes. As such, these trees are not considered to meet the threshold for listing at this time.	N
Euston Road, between Maddox Street and Huntley Street.	5	These trees appear to have been planted as part of an avenue in the late-1970s to early 1980s, located along Euston Road between Maddox Street and Huntley Street. However, only a few specimens remain. Hill's Weeping Figs are a commonly used street tree throughout the City of Sydney local government area (LGA) and have been used extensively in public street and park	N

Location	Number of Trees	Nomination assessment	Nomination Support (Y/N)
		planting since the inter-war period (c.1915-1940). The individual specimens along Euston Road are not considered exceptional or distinctive when compared to other, more intact or historically significant plantings within the LGA.	

Annandale

Location	Number of Trees	Nomination assessment	Nomination Support (Y/N)
Bicentennial Park	8	The group of eight Port Jackson Fig trees (<i>Ficus rubiginosa</i>) at the north-western end of Bicentennial Park in Glebe were planted in the 1990s following a successful community campaign to preserve the Annandale foreshore from large-scale development. Funded by local residents and businesses, the trees mark the former 1940s shoreline and are accompanied by the 'Time Rings' public artwork, symbolising local community identity. These visually prominent figs represent the lasting legacy of grassroots environmental activism and contribute to the social, historical, and cultural character of the park and broader foreshore precinct.	Y
Federal Park	14	The <i>Melaleuca quinquenervia</i> (Broad-leaved Paperbark) is a commonly used street tree species throughout the City's LGA and has been widely planted in public landscapes due to its hardiness and adaptability. The specimens in question are relatively small (8m - 12m) and appear to date from the mid to late-1980s. They are located along the western border of the Crescent Synthetic Sportsfields. They do not demonstrate any particular visual, historic, or botanical significance beyond their typical use in urban planting schemes. As such, these trees are not considered to meet the threshold for listing at this time.	N
Federal Park	5	The group of five (5) <i>Eucalyptus saligna</i> (Sydney Blue Gum) are located to the south of the Crescent Early Learning Centre. The specimens are visible in 2005 aerial imagery but do not appear in the 1996 imagery. As aerial imagery is unavailable for the intervening years, the trees are likely to have been planted in the early 2000s. These specimens are relatively young and exhibit a tall, narrow form - reaching approximately 11 to 16 metres in height with a canopy spread of around 8 metres - due to their restricted growing environment. While Sydney Blue Gum is a commonly planted native species throughout the City of Sydney local government area, valued for its fast growth and ecological benefits, a comparative analysis indicates that there are larger and more historically or botanically significant specimens elsewhere within the LGA. These particular trees do not demonstrate distinctive visual, historic, or botanical qualities beyond their typical role in public planting schemes. As such, they are not considered to meet the threshold for heritage listing at this time.	N

Camperdown

Location	Number of Trees	Nomination assessment	Nomination Support (Y/N)
Moore College, John Chapman House, Carillon Avenue	2	The Washington Palms, located within the grounds of John Chapman House, form a striking single-species pair reaching approximately 25 metres in height. Positioned prominently, they possess strong landmark qualities and contribute to the historic character of the site. Visible in 1943 aerial imagery, the palms are considered to be associated with John Chapman House (c. 1889, with extensions into the early 1900s).	Y
Nurses Memorial Garden 2B Pyrmont Bridge Rd, Camperdown		The Moreton Bay Fig (<i>Ficus macrophylla</i>) is significant for its visual, historic and commemorative values. Planted within the Nurses Memorial Garden in Camperdown. The garden was established in 2009 to recognise the history of the Royal Alexandra Hospital for Children, which occupied the site from 1906 to 1995. The Moreton Bay Fig forms part of a setting that reflects the site's past use and ongoing significance to the local community.	Y
St Andrews College	27	The row of <i>Lophostemon confertus</i> (Brush Box) in front of Harper Lodge (formerly the Theological Hall) at St Andrew's College, is a mature planting likely established in the 1930s. As surviving elements of an original boundary planting, these trees contribute to the site's historical and aesthetic value, marking an early phase of landscape development within the College grounds.	Y
		The Jacaranda (<i>Jacaranda mimosifolia</i>) located to the north of Harper Lodge (formerly the Theological Hall) at St Andrew's College, University of Sydney, is a mature planting likely established in the 1970s. The tree contributes to the site's historical and aesthetic value, marking an early phase of landscape development within the College grounds.	
		The Hills Weeping Fig (<i>Ficus microcarpa</i> var. <i>hillii</i>) is a large, mature specimen located within the garden courtyard of the Thyne Building at St Andrew's College. Aerial imagery from 1955 shows the tree as a small but established planting, confirming it predates the major development period of the 1960s.	
		The Spotted Gum (<i>Corymbia maculata</i>) have significance as part of the broader University of Sydney group and the group associated with St Andrew's College. They are part of a mixed-age grove in the south-eastern area of St Andrew's Oval, associated with renowned landscape architect Bruce Mackenzie, who designed a native bushland landscape for the College in the late 1960s.	
St Pauls College	5	The Moreton Bay Fig (<i>Ficus macrophylla</i>) as part of the broader group of trees within USYD and St Paul's College are considered as one of the City of Sydney's more important collections.	Y

Location	Number of Trees	Nomination assessment	Nomination Support (Y/N)
		As a group these trees create a unique sense of place and are often associated with specific components of the campus including specific historic buildings and their curtilages, sports ovals, internal roadways and pedestrian walkways. These trees provide important historic markers in the landscape, describing the way the campus developed over time and its close links with Victoria Park and Royal Prince Alfred Hospital.	
		The Platanus x acerifolia (London Plane) and Liquidambar styraciflua (Liquidambar) within the Chapel Quadrangle garden at St Paul's College is a mature specimen, likely planted during the College's mid-20th-century expansion and the construction of the Chapel Wing in the 1960s–1970s. Reflecting the era's formal landscape approach, the tree is visually significant and contributes to the historical and aesthetic character of the College grounds.	
		The Hills Weeping Fig (Ficus microcarpa var. hillii) north west of the Main Quadrangle on the grounds of St Paul's College, is a mature planting likely established in the 1930s. The tree contributes to the site's historical and aesthetic value, marking an early phase of landscape development within the College grounds.	
		A Eucalyptus microcarpa (Grey Box) was nominated as potentially dating from pre. 1943. Research indicates the tree dates from the early 1990s. Relatively small specimen with fair health with reduced crown density. As such, listing is not supported at this time.	N
University of Sydney	1	The Port Jackson Fig (Ficus rubiginosa) is located in a prominent position on the corner of Eastern Avenue and Manning Road. The Port Jackson Fig appears to date from the post-war period (1940s – 1960s). The Port Jackson Fig and nearby Moreton Bay Fig define the entrance to Eastern Avenue.	Y
	5	The row of Moreton Bay Figs (Ficus macrophylla) stands along City Road beside the Carslaw Building and is part of a historic row of figs marking the original edge of Victoria Park. Aerial imagery from 1943 shows these trees as mature, indicating a late 19th-century planting. A 1920s land exchange with the City of Sydney reduced the park's area, allowing for University expansion and later construction of the Carslaw Building (c. 1965).	
	2	The London Plane trees are associated with the construction of the Chemistry Building (1958). Planting date 1960s or early 1970s. As a pair the London Plane trees contribute to a sense of place within the Chemistry courtyard along Eastern Avenue.	
	2	The Jacaranda mimosifolia (Jacaranda) and Brachychiton acerifolius (Illawarra Flame tree) trees were planted in 2017 as companion species. They are deciduous and flower in late spring, creating a seasonal display. The Jacaranda is a descendant of the iconic 'Waterhouse' Jacaranda, originally	

Location	Number of Trees	Nomination assessment	Nomination Support (Y/N)
		planted in the Quadrangle in 1928 by Sydney academic and horticulturalist E.G. Waterhouse. It was his third attempt to establish a Jacaranda in that location, traditionally associated with the Philosophy Department, where the tree was said to offer shade for philosophers to think under. In 2014, cuttings from the original tree were grafted onto genetically related rootstock. One of these grafted trees now continues the legacy in the Quadrangle. Planted alongside the Jacaranda, the Illawarra Flame Tree serves as a native counterpart. Its presence in the Quadrangle acknowledges the cultural significance of Gadigal land and reflects the University's broader heritage and commitment to inclusion.	
	1	The American Cottonwood (<i>Populus deltoides</i>) is located in the courtyard at the rear of the Main Quadrangle. It is associated with the construction of the McCallum Building, which opened in the early 1960s as part of the University's mid-century campus expansion. Landscaping works were undertaken at the time, and the tree is visible in aerial photographs from the 1970s. Its broad canopy dominates the courtyard space between the Main Quad and the McCallum Building, contributing to the area's character and identity.	
	1	The Sydney Blue Gum, located in the front courtyard of the ABS Building (c. 2015), appears to date from the late 1970s, as seen in aerial imagery. The building's design seems to intentionally retain and highlight the tree, making it a central feature. Positioned prominently along Codrington Street, its broad canopy fills the courtyard and gives the tree a strong landmark presence.	
Victoria Park	2	This Moreton Bay Fig (<i>Ficus macrophylla</i>) has been added to the Victoria Park listing. This Moreton Bay Fig has group significance within Victoria Park due to its visual, historic, botanical, and social importance. As part of the original late 19th-century park layout, the tree reflects historical park design and has strong associations with the University of Sydney and notable botanists Charles Moore and Joseph Maiden. It also includes rare botanical specimens and contributes to the distinctive character of the park and surrounding area. The Victoria Park Group, including this tree, is formally recognised in the SLEP (2012) for its heritage value.	Y
	1	The tree is a Holm Oak (<i>Quercus ilex</i>) (not a Turpentine) and is already listed in the current Register.	N/A
Wesley College	5	This Hills Weeping Fig (<i>Ficus microcarpa</i> var. <i>hillii</i>) is located within the Wesley College precinct at the University of Sydney, along Western Avenue. The Hills Weeping Fig forms part of the remnants of a former row planting in front of the College. Aerial imagery from 1955 shows young specimens planted along this alignment, suggesting the tree likely dates from the post-World War II period.	Y

Darlinghurst

Location	Number of Trees	Nomination assessment	Nomination Support (Y/N)
Green Park, Victoria Street	3	The Washington Palm (<i>Washingtonia robusta</i>) holds visual and historical value as part of a distinctive group planting in Green Park, Darlinghurst. This grove of palms contributes to the park's formal landscape character and reflects broader late 19th- and early 20th-century planting practices common to Sydney's historic parks. Likely associated with botanists Charles Moore and Joseph Maiden, the group forms an integral part of the park's heritage significance. Together with features such as the bandstand pavilion and perimeter fence, the palms enhance the cultural and historical identity of Green Park, which is listed in the City of Sydney Local Environmental Plan 2012.	Y

Darlington

Location	Number of Trees	Nomination assessment	Nomination Support (Y/N)
Shepherd Street, cnr. Calder Lane	1	This Flooded Gum (<i>Eucalyptus grandis</i>) is of significance for its visual and ecological value. Likely planted in the late 1970s, it is an excellent example of a species that is relatively uncommon within the City of Sydney. The tree contributes to the character of this urban streetscape and reflects a period of expansion by the University of Sydney into the Darlington area.	Y
University of Sydney - Civil Engineering Building	1	The Tallowwood (<i>Eucalyptus microcorys</i>) was likely planted in the early 1970s, and it is the oldest and largest specimen within a row of Tallowwoods fronting the Civil and Mining Engineering Building (J05). The Tallowwood reflects a period of campus consolidation and landscape enhancement associated with the University's mid-20th century expansion into the Darlington area. Although additional Tallowwoods were planted in the late 1990s to early 2000s to create a cohesive planting scheme, this specimen predates them and serves as an anchor point in the site's landscape evolution.	Y

Forest Lodge

Location	Number of Trees	Nomination assessment	Nomination Support (Y/N)
77-85 Hereford Street	7	The Tallowwoods (<i>Eucalyptus microcorys</i>) have group significance for its visual and social value. Planted in response to a proposed freeway project in the 1970s, it forms part of a site that has been preserved as green space through sustained community involvement. Together, the trees contribute environmental and visual benefits and illustrate the role of long-term local engagement in protecting urban open space.	Y

Location	Number of Trees	Nomination assessment	Nomination Support (Y/N)
77A and 75C Hereford Street	1	The Camphor Laurel (<i>Cinnamomum camphora</i>) is located within the common area of 75A–75C Hereford Street, Forest Lodge. It was originally part of the garden setting of the heritage-listed cottage at 75 Hereford Street, constructed in 1859. Historical aerial imagery from 1943 confirms the tree's presence at that time. However, the canopy is noted to be small, indicating it was planted sometime in the early to mid-20th century, rather than being original to the 19th-century garden. In the 1990s, Leichhardt Council approved a subdivision of the property, resulting in the tree being separated from its original curtilage and the cottage itself. It now sits within the common area of a multi-dwelling development and is no longer physically associated with the heritage item. The surrounding built form further reduces its prominence and visibility from the public domain.	N
Forest Lodge Primary School, Bridge Road	1	The Port Jackson Fig (<i>Ficus rubiginosa</i>) is a significant visual and historical feature of Forest Lodge Public School, forming part of its locally listed heritage item. Planted in line with late 19th and early 20th-century public school landscaping practices, its presence reflects the broader influence of Charles Moore and Joseph Maiden, who promoted the use of native figs in Sydney's civic and institutional landscapes.	Y
Lewis Hoad Reserve, Minogue Crescent	7	The Port Jackson Figs (<i>Ficus rubiginosa</i>) have group significance for its visual, botanical, and ecological values. Naturally established along the sandstone ledge at Minogue Crescent near Cliff Terrace, the group exhibits a distinctive lithophytic growth form typical of figs colonising rocky outcrops in the Sydney basin. First visible in aerial imagery from the late 1970s to early 1980s, the figs have developed cascading aerial roots that cling to the exposed sandstone, creating a striking visual connection between vegetation and geology.	Y
	2	The Swamp Mahogany (<i>Eucalyptus robusta</i>) has group significance for its visual, ecological and commemorative values. Planted in the early 1970s as part of Ilmar Berzins' 1965 landscape design, the trees reflect the growing use of native species in urban landscapes. They contribute to the reserve's commemorative role, honouring both local tennis champion Lewis Hoad and landscape architect Ilmar Berzins.	Y
	4	Mixed nominations of Wallangarra White Gum, Bangalay, Sydney Blue Gums. Planted in the 1970s as part of Ilmar Berzins' 1965 landscape design, these trees reflect the increasing use of native species in urban landscapes during that period. They contribute to the commemorative character of the reserve, which honours both local tennis champion Lewis Hoad and landscape architect Ilmar Berzins. However, the	N

Location	Number of Trees	Nomination assessment	Nomination Support (Y/N)
		trees are not recommended for listing due to their current poor to fair health and short useful life expectancy.	
Orphan School Creek Playground, Wood Street	2	The Angophora floribunda (Rough Barked Apple) and Eucalyptus saligna (Sydney Blue Gum) are mature specimens likely planted in the 1970s during the early development of Orphan School Creek Playground, contributing to the site's social and historical value as reclaimed open space. Its association with local community efforts, including the work of FRROGs and The Glebe Society, underscores its significance as a living marker of community identity and landscape restoration.	Y
59 Ross Street	1	The Tallow Wood (Eucalyptus microcorys) is located in a prominent location at the corner of Ross Street and Minogue Crescent. The tree was planted in late 1970s. Whilst it has grown to a large size, contributing to the visual quality of the surrounding landscape, it holds no historical, ecological, botanical, social/ cultural or commemorative significance at this time.	N
Ross Street Playground	2	The Port Jackson Figs (Ficus rubiginosa) are located within the Ross Street Playground, where it is growing as a lithophyte over a low rock ledge. The tree displays a characteristic multi-trunked form, likely the result of aerial root development. Given its position and growth habit, it is potentially a self-sown specimen. Aerial imagery from the late 1980s to early 1990s shows the initial stages of landscaping within the playground, with the Port Jackson Fig first becoming visible in imagery from the early 1990s. As a relatively young tree, the Port Jackson Fig is not currently considered to meet significance criteria. It does not demonstrate significant historical, ecological, botanical, social, cultural, or commemorative value at this time.	N
Ross Street Reserve	2	The pair of Jacaranda's appear to be an early 2000s addition to the Ross Street Reserve. The species is common throughout the LGA. Specimens not considered outstanding in terms of size and hold no historical, ecological, botanical, social/ cultural or commemorative significance at this time.	N
Ross St, Cnr Minogue Cres	2	The Port Jackson Figs (Ficus rubiginosa) are already listed in the current Register.	N/A
St Johns Road & Junction Street	10	The Melaleuca quinquenervia (Broad-leaved Paperbark) is a commonly used street tree species throughout the City of Sydney local government area and has been widely planted in public landscapes due to its hardiness and adaptability. The specimens in question are relatively small (5m - 10m) and appear to date from the mid-1990s. They are located along St Johns Road, between Junction Street and David Lane. They do not demonstrate any particular visual, historic, or botanical significance beyond their typical use in urban planting schemes. As such, these trees are not considered to meet the threshold for listing at this time.	N

Glebe

Location	Number of Trees	Nomination assessment	Nomination Support (Y/N)
Arthur Paddy Gray Reserve, Hereford St	1	The Cockscomb Coral Tree (<i>Erythrina crista-galli</i>) is valued for its striking form, ornamental qualities, and contribution to the character of Arthur (Paddy) Gray Reserve. Likely planted during the 1990s upgrades, it is a relatively young specimen of a species now relatively uncommon in the City of Sydney, adding both visual and botanical interest to the landscape.	Y
177 Bridge Road, Glebe	7	The Bhutan Cypress (<i>Cupressus torulosa</i>) specimens are located within the garden of 177 Bridge Road, Glebe. A row of five trees is situated along the boundary with 179 Bridge Road, with two additional specimens located in front of the residence. The trees range in height from approximately 13 to 18 metres, and are likely planted in the 1990s based on aerial imagery. They are not associated with the earlier, more historically significant planting schemes and do not demonstrate any particular visual, historic, or botanical significance. As such, these trees are not considered to meet the threshold for listing at this time. The three other nominations for this site Bunya Pine, Bull Bay Magnolia and Camphor Laurel are already listed on the current Register.	N N/A
181 Bridge Road, Glebe	3	Three trees, Red Cedar, Peppercorn and Spotted Gum, appear to date from the 1970s / 1980s. They do not demonstrate any particular visual, historic, or botanical significance beyond their typical use in urban planting schemes. As such, these trees are not considered to meet the threshold for listing at this time.	N
120 Glebe Point Road, Glebe	1	The Magnolia grandiflora (American Bull Bay Magnolia) at 120 Glebe Point Road is of individual significance for its visual and historic value. Likely planted in the early 20th century, it is a mature example of a species widely used in private gardens and public parklands throughout Sydney since the 19th century and contributes to the heritage setting of this early Victorian heritage-listed property.	Y
357 Glebe Point Road, Glebe 'Bidura'	1	The mature Schinus molle (Peppercorn Tree) is situated along the front fence line of Bidura, a heritage-listed Victorian Italianate villa designed by Colonial Architect Edmund Blacket c.1862. The Peppercorn Tree is a historically significant species, widely used in early public and private landscape plantings throughout Sydney. This specimen, thought to date from the period when the site was used as the Depot for State Children and the Metropolitan Girls' Shelter (1920–1970), is the sole survivor of a row of trees that once lined Bidura's front boundary.	Y
Mt Vernon St, Cnr Catherine Street	1	The Moreton Bay Fig is already listed in the current Register.	N/A

Location	Number of Trees	Nomination assessment	Nomination Support (Y/N)
Wentworth Park	11	The Hill's Fig (<i>Ficus microcarpa</i> var. <i>hillii</i>) group in the south-eastern area of Wentworth Park is of group significance for its visual and historic values. Planted in the late 1960's / early 1970s, the trees reflect the continued tradition of formal fig planting in Sydney's public parks and are associated with the post-war development of the site. Now mature, they contribute to the park's distinctive landscape character and layered planting history.	Y

Moore Park

Location	Number of Trees	Nomination assessment	Nomination Support (Y/N)
Sydney Boys High School and Sydney Girls High School	6	The five Phoenix <i>canariensis</i> (Canary Island Date Palm) and one <i>Ficus superba</i> (Deciduous Fig) within the grounds of the Sydney Boys and Sydney Girls High Schools are mature specimens, likely planted during the late Victorian period as part of the landscaping associated with the former Moore Park Zoological Gardens. Reflecting the era's preference for exotic and formal planting schemes, the palms are visually prominent and contribute significantly to the historical and aesthetic character of the broader Moore Park Precinct.	Y
Moore Park	8	Additional significant Hills Weeping Figs and Canary Island Date Palms should form part of the existing listing for Moore Park Rd, Driver Ave & Kippax Lake Moore Park.	Y
Moore Park Golf Course	2	Small American Bull Bay Magnolia and Cupressus. These trees are not considered significant in terms of size and have no known historical association with the Moore Park precinct. Considered likely to be a later landscape addition.	N

Newtown

Location	Number of Trees	Nomination assessment	Nomination Support (Y/N)
Wilson Street, Newtown	1	Single London Plane tree located on Wilson Street between Pine Street and Burren Street. At 15m in height it is not considered outstanding in height. Aerial imagery indicates the tree dates from the 1980s. Common species for the Sydney LGA.	N

Paddington

Location	Number of Trees	Nomination assessment	Nomination Support (Y/N)
Gordon Street	5	These Hills Weeping Figs appear to have been planted as part of an avenue in the mid-1970s, located between the rear of Paddington Public School and St Francis of Assisi Catholic Church. However, only a few specimens remain, and the original avenue planting has been compromised, with the street no longer presenting as a cohesive or consistent single-species planting. Hill's Weeping Figs are a commonly used street tree throughout the Sydney LGA and have been used extensively in public street and park planting since the Inter-war period (c.1915-1940). The individual specimens along Gordon Street are not considered exceptional or distinctive when compared to other, more intact or historically significant plantings within the LGA.	N
Victoria Barracks, Oxford Street	4	The four Tasmanian Blue Gums (<i>Eucalyptus globulus</i>) are similarly sized specimens within Victoria Barracks that hold local significance for their visual, historical, and social/cultural values. Likely planted in the 1960s, the trees contribute to the site's heritage landscape and is notable for being mature examples of a species that is relatively uncommon in the City of Sydney. They forms part of the broader tree collection associated with the heritage-listed Victoria Barracks, included in the Sydney LEP 2012.	Y
	1	This Moreton Bay Fig (<i>Ficus macrophylla</i>) has group significance as part of the Victoria Barracks group for its visual, historical, and social/ cultural values. The Moreton Bay Fig is located adjacent to Oxford Street and is associated with the early stages of development at Victoria Barracks, which has occupied this site since 1836. Set within a landscape defined by formal open spaces, the tree contributes to the distinctive character of the site and reinforces its heritage values. The Moreton Bay Fig is linked to the influential work of Charles Moore, former Director of the Royal Botanic Gardens, and forms part of a broader city-wide fig collection that reflects the planting patterns of early public parks and institutional grounds in Sydney.	Y
	1	The Aleppo Pine (<i>Pinus halepensis</i>) holds visual, historical, commemorative, and social/ cultural value. Planted in 1995 by Major General PM Arnison and local Paddington school children, it marks 50 years since the end of World War II. As one of the pine species found at Gallipoli, the tree symbolises Australia's military heritage and reflects community participation in remembrance. It stands as a living memorial and contributes to the cultural and historical identity of the site.	

Potts Point

Location	Number of Trees	Nomination assessment	Nomination Support (Y/N)
SCEGGS, Victoria Street	4	The mature trees at SCEGGS Darlinghurst, including the Moreton Bay Fig (<i>Ficus macrophylla</i>), Kauri Pine (<i>Agathis robusta</i>), and Jacaranda (<i>Jacaranda mimosifolia</i>), are significant for their visual presence, historic associations, social and botanical value. Reflecting late 19th- and early 20th-century planting practices influenced by Charles Moore and Joseph Maiden, they contribute to the school's historic character. The 2019 fig cloning program highlights the school community's continued commitment to their conservation.	Y

Pymont

Location	Number of Trees	Nomination assessment	Nomination Support (Y/N)
Maybanke Community Centre, Harris Street	1	The Hill's Weeping Fig (<i>Ficus microcarpa</i> var. <i>hillii</i>) holds visual, social/cultural, and historical value. Likely planted in the 1940s, it is a reminder of the site's origins as the Maybanke Playground - established on land gifted by CSR and named in honour of social reformer Maybanke Anderson. The tree reflects the evolution of the site into a valued community centre and symbolises decades of local recreational and social activity. It contributes to the cultural identity of the area and stands as a marker of Pymont's commitment to community life and public open space.	Y
Pymont Street, Pymont	1	A single specimen <i>Citharexylum spinosum</i> (Fiddlewood) located within a rear yard in Pymont Street was likely planted in the late 1990s. Known for its rapid growth, the species is visually striking but holds no historical, ecological, botanical, social / cultural or commemorative significance at this time.	N

Rosebery

Location	Number of Trees	Nomination assessment	Nomination Support (Y/N)
Gardeners Road Public School	1	The Tallowood (<i>Eucalyptus microcorys</i>) has group significance as part of the collection of trees on the school site. It is part of the locally listed item Gardeners Road Public School - Item 1373 which references the plantings including figs, palms and eucalyptus species. The Tallowood likely dates from the 1940s to 1950s and is associated with the development of the Gardeners Road Public School.	Y

Surry Hills

Location	Number of Trees	Nomination assessment	Nomination Support (Y/N)
Vine Church - Albion Street	2	This Port Jackson Fig (<i>Ficus rubiginosa</i>) and Canary Island Date Palm (<i>Phoenix canariensis</i>) is of individual significance for its contribution to the historic setting of the heritage-listed Vine Church site. Characteristic of late nineteenth and early twentieth-century specimen plantings, the palm enhances the visual and historic character of the site, which includes notable Gothic, Victorian, and Edwardian-era buildings. Its presence in 1943 aerial imagery confirms its long-standing role in the landscape.	Y

Ultimo

Location	Number of Trees	Nomination assessment	Nomination Support (Y/N)
Ada Place Playground	1	The London Plane tree is a mature specimen likely planted with the establishment of Ada Place Playground in 1967, contributing to the site's social and historical value as a post-war community space. Its scale, longevity, and presence in a compact urban setting make it a significant landmark that enhances local character and amenity.	Y
	3	These small <i>Syzygium paniculatum</i> (Brush Cherry) are common species. They do not demonstrate any particular visual, historic, or botanical significance beyond their typical use in urban planting schemes. As such, these trees are not considered to meet the threshold for listing at this time.	N

Waterloo

Location	Number of Trees	Nomination assessment	Nomination Support (Y/N)
Wellington Street	8	The Hills Weeping Fig (<i>Ficus microcarpa</i> var. <i>hillii</i>) has group significance for its visual and historic value. Planted during 1970s streetscape and public housing works in Waterloo, the group reflects a period of government-led urban renewal and investment in green infrastructure. Together, the trees contribute visual cohesion to the streetscape and illustrate the role of landscape planning in shaping mid-20th-century public housing environments.	Y
	7	The Broad-leaved Paperbark (<i>Melaleuca quinquenervia</i>) is a commonly used street tree species throughout the LGA and has been widely planted in public landscapes due to its hardiness and adaptability. The nominated trees are medium sized (13m) and appear to date from the 1980s. They are located along Wellington Street, between George and Pitt streets. They do not demonstrate any particular visual, historic, or botanical	N

Location	Number of Trees	Nomination assessment	Nomination Support (Y/N)
		significance beyond their typical use in urban planting schemes. As such, these trees are not considered to meet the threshold for listing at this time.	

Engagement activities

Overview of engagement

1. Sydney Your Say webpage

A Sydney Your Say webpage, <https://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/policy-planning-changes/your-say-updating-register-significant-trees> was created. The page included information about the consultation.

2. Online feedback form

The community and stakeholders were able to give feedback using an interactive map. A link to the map was provided on the Sydney Your Say website.

3. Sydney Your Say Notification

An EDM was sent to subscribers of the Sydney Your Say Newsletter on 12 March to 6,659 recipients each time.

4. Notification letter

A notification letter was issued to 626 properties, advising recipients of the consultation and informing them that one or more trees located on their property are currently included on the register.

5. Stakeholder email

A notification email was issued to 24 organisations, advising recipients of the consultation and informing them that one or more trees located on their property are currently included on the register.

6. Applicant email

An email was sent to 7 residents who had previously applied to have trees added to the register.

7. Social media

The City of Sydney news story and consultation page was shared on LinkedIn, Facebook and Instagram.

Sydney Your Say page

Policy & planning changes

Your say on updating our register of significant trees

 **Under review**

Contributions to this consultation are closed for evaluation and review. The project team will report back on key outcomes.

PUBLIC CONSULTATION PERIOD
10 March 2025 to 7 April 2025

What we're doing

We're accepting nominations for new trees to be added to our [register of significant trees](#).

Nominations should be for trees which have visual, botanic, ecological, historical, social/cultural or commemorative significance.

We'll review all requests against the classification criteria.

Karen Sweeney

URBAN FOREST MANAGER

02 9265 9333

sydneyoursay@cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au
CITY OF SYDNEY

Why we're doing this

Our strategies, policies and plans across various portfolios help to meet our greening aims and objectives. This includes the register of significant trees which is reviewed around every 10 years to reflect changes in listings.

A summary of key information about the register of significant trees and how to nominate a new tree is [listed below](#).

Next steps

Our expert panel will review all nominations.

The register will then be updated and a public feedback recommendation made to Council. After public comment, we'll consider all feedback and report the results to Council and the Environment and Climate Change Committee.

How you can give feedback

Consultation closes at 5pm on Monday 7 April 2025.

- 1 Complete our nomination form

[Add nomination](#)

- 2 Email or post your feedback

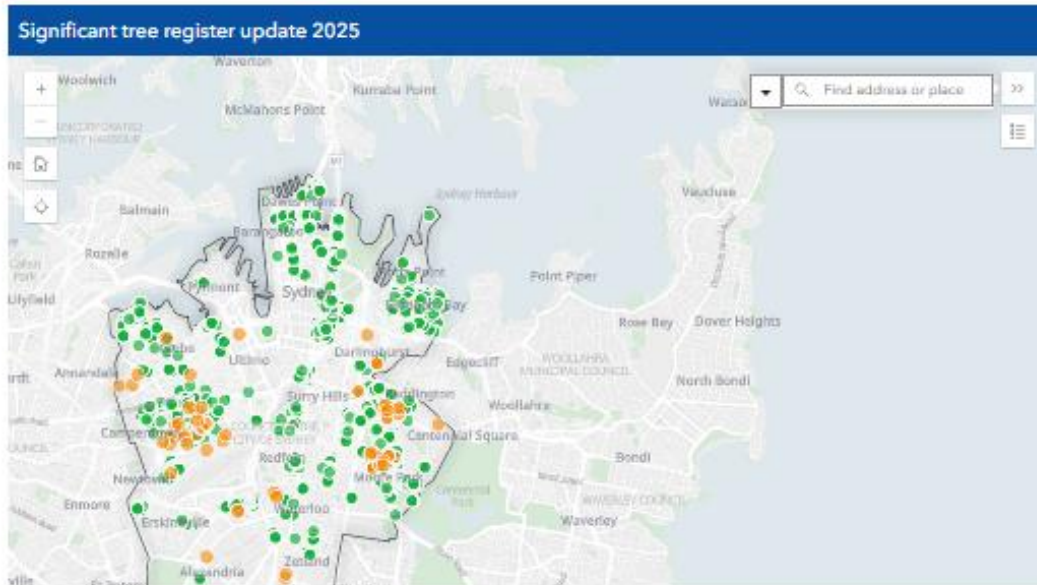
You can give your feedback by email to sydneyoursay@cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au or post to:

Karen Sweeney
City Greening and Leisure
456 Kent Street
Sydney NSW 2000

Interactive map

Interactive map

- To nominate a new tree zoom in and click on a blank section of the map.
- To comment on an existing tree, click on a green dot.



[View map in new window](#)

Map legend:

- Green dots indicate existing trees in the register
- Orange dots indicate nominated trees



Photo: Chris Southwood / City of Sydney

Your say on our new register of significant trees

We're accepting nominations for new listings to be added to our register of significant trees. Entries should be for trees which have historical, cultural, social, ecological, commemorative or visual importance.

Read our criteria and nominate by Monday 7 April.

[Read more](#)

Notification letter



City of Sydney
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456 Kent Street
Sydney NSW 2000

+61 2 9265 9333
council@cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au
GPO Box 1591 Sydney NSW 2001
cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au

14 March 2025

Updating our register of significant trees

The register of significant trees highlights important trees in our area. It records their significance to our urban landscape, guides their management and protects them for future generations. Trees in the register may be in parks and streets as well as private property.

The current register includes one or more trees on your property. The listing information can be found on the map at the link below.

We are reviewing and updating the register. Originally adopted by Council in 2005 and updated in 2013, it is reviewed around every 10 years. Updates may include where trees have been removed, or additional trees that now meet the classification criteria.

We're now asking for nominations for new trees until 7 April 2025. Expert consultants will then review nominations and may recommend them for the register.

You'll be notified again when the updated register is open for public comment later in 2025.

If you would like to nominate new trees, have photos of trees you would like to add or comment on an existing record, visit cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/consultations.

For more information, contact urban forest manager – Karen Sweeney at sydneyyoursay@cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au

Yours sincerely

A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be the initials "V.L." or similar.

Veronica Lee
Executive Director City Services
