



**CUMBERLAND
CITY COUNCIL**

Cumberland Historical Timeline

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Date	Event
Pre-European Period – Pre-1788	
Pre– 1788	The land that is now part of Cumberland LGA was part of the Darug lands which covered much of modern Western Sydney and were home to Australia’s first people. Within the Darug lands lived several distinct tribes or clans and these clans included the Toongagal, Warmuli (Weymali), Burramattagal, Wategora and Wangal peoples.
Early Colonial Period – 1788 to 1843	
1788 – 1800	Arrival of First Fleet and founding of British Convict Colony of New South Wales. The Colonists were initially based at Sydney Cove but the need to grow food crops soon drove settlement west to the more fertile Parramatta area.
1788	<p>5th February exploratory survey of Parramatta River brings first Europeans up Duck River to the vicinity of Mona Street. They named the waterway Duck River as a large population of water birds inhabited the area. The “ducks” were actually Swamphens.</p> <p>On 26th April the explorers ascended Prospect Hill and named it because the view of the surrounding land offered good prospects for farming and grazing. Prospect Hill was surrounded by grassland in contrast to the land around Duck River and Duck Ck which was then heavily wooded.</p>
1789 - 90	Smallpox epidemic introduced by new convict colony spreads rapidly through Indigenous clans in the Sydney basin and is believed to have killed between 50% and 90% of the total population.
1791	First nine land grants were issued around the base of Prospect Hill to convicts and emancipists to grow food for the struggling colony.
1793	First European settlers arrived in future Auburn and Granville area – land grants were issued to them by the Colonial Governor. The area was named ‘Liberty Plains’ because the newcomers were free settlers in a convict colony.
1797	Parramatta Road constructed to link convict settlements at Sydney and Parramatta. Beginning as a bush track it was re-made in 1806 and 1810 but remained an unsealed road until after WWI. Toll bars were established at various

	points along its route by Governor Macquarie to help fund its maintenance. Tolls were abolished in 1883.
1790–1804	Clashes began between British Colonists and local Indigenous people as the newcomers started clearing land and planting the first European food crops in Australia. The original inhabitants were pushed out of their ancestral lands, local fauna was driven out by the loss of their habitat and traditional food plants cultivated by Indigenous people were destroyed by the Europeans in ignorance of their value. Bidjigal man, Pemulwuy became a prominent leader of the Indigenous resistance in the Prospect Hill area until 1802 when he and a companion were both killed by settlers.
1800–1840s	The division of Dharug lands into ‘Crown Land Grants’ awarded to officials, military, free settlers and emancipists to farm continued apace. Major first land grant holders in this area included Garnham Blaxcell, 1806, (Granville); D’Arcy Wentworth, 1810-19 (Wentworthville, Pendle Hill, Girraween, Greystanes and also Homebush Bay), William Sherwin, 1810 (Merrylands West and Greystanes); Charles Whalan, 1818 (Greystanes); Joseph Hyde Potts, 1835, (Berala and Regents Park); James Chisholm (South Granville and Auburn) and Samuel North, 1837 (Guildford).
1805	First reconciliation attempt between settlers and members of the Weymali clan. Peace talks were held at Prospect Hill led by the Rev. Samuel Marsden. The settlers agreed to give access to the Weymali to their traditional lands for food to halt attacks on their farms.
1810	Parramatta Domain – an area of 2000 acres forming an arc around the western side of the Township of Parramatta set aside by Governor Macquarie. Modern Westmead and a small section of Wentworthville were once part of the Domain.
1820s–1830s	The Granville area was covered in dense forests when European settlement began. As a result, timber getting became the first local industry before heavy industry replaced it in the 1880s. From the 1830s orchards, small farms and vineyards were developed as the first of the land grants in the area were either sold or subdivided.
1823	Merchant, James Chisholm expanded his landholdings in the area with the purchase of several neighbouring land grants beside Duck River to form the vast Chisholm Estate (Auburn West and part of South Granville)

1825	Church & School Lands were decreed by the Governor, setting aside areas of land in the Colony for the Church of England to use as a means of raising revenue. 1000 acres was set aside for this purpose south of Parramatta in what is now Merrylands. Merrylands Rd, Woodville Rd, Fowler Rd and Guildford Rd form the boundaries of the former C & S Land. The Church never used it so over succeeding decades local settlers raided the scrubland and ironbark brush which covered it for firewood and suitable timber for building.
1831	Dr William Sherwin – created the Sherwood Estate (Merrylands West), covering 1,165 acres of land partly inherited from his father, William Sherwin and subsequently enlarged by the purchase of neighbouring land grants.
1831-1834	Australia’s first official Catholic Chaplain, Irish born John Joseph Therry (1790-1864), acquired 280 acres of land at Haslams Creek - in three separate purchases - which became known as the Therry Estate (Lidcombe).
1835	Proclamation of parishes for land purchases – modern Cumberland sits within Prospect, St John, Liberty Plains and Concord. St John was originally proclaimed in 1802, named after Governor John Hunter.
c1836-7	<p>‘Greystanes House’ built by Nelson Simmons Lawson, on land given to him by his father, Blue Mountains explorer, William Lawson, on the eastern side of Prospect Hill. The grand mansion was demolished in 1946.</p> <p>For much of the 19th Century the Auburn area remained bushland with only small pockets, mostly north of Parramatta Rd on John Blaxland and D’Arcy Wentworth’s estates, used for agricultural purposes, timber getting, horse breeding or small-scale industry.</p>
1842	Henry Whitaker bought 42 acres at what is now Old Guildford, Guildford and Yennora and then a year later added Samuel North’s ‘Guildford’ estate to his landholdings on the northern boundary. He built a homestead called ‘Orchardleigh’ on the estate and together with his wife, Maria, established an award-winning vineyard there.
1843	Entrepreneur, William Fullagar established the Star Inn on the Great Western Hwy on land leased from the Wentworth Estate (now Wentworthville) and then established a cattle sales yard next door to the Inn in 1845. The success of these enterprises enabled him to acquire land in the surrounding area from 1849-1866. He built ‘Willow Cottage’ (later renamed ‘The Wattles’) on a portion of this land,

	<p>south of the Highway in the mid-1850s then later built 'Essington' almost diagonally opposite on the northern side, at the corner of Bridge Rd. Both houses still stand. 'Essington' is now Westmead Christian Grammar School while 'The Wattles' is a private residence tucked away off the Great Western Hwy at South Wentworthville.</p>
	<p>Mid-Colonial Period – 1855 to 1879</p>
1855	<p>First subdivision of Garnham Blaxcell's grant released on 05 February.</p> <p>Parramatta Junction Railway Station opened on 26 September as terminus for the new Western Railway line at what would later become Granville. The terminus was the Dog Trap Rd (now Woodville Rd). A year later the Main Southern Rail Line was built from Parramatta Junction to Liverpool. Then, in 1860, the Western Railway line was extended further west to Blacktown and the current Parramatta Station opened, while Parramatta Junction Station was relocated east to the present Granville Station site.</p> <p>Barrister, Supreme Court Judge and politician, Arthur Todd Holroyd bought a large chunk of the Sherwood Estate from Dr William Sherwin and lived on the estate from 1861 until his death in 1887. His house, 'Sherwood Scrubs' was completed in 1879 and still stands at Merrylands West within the grounds of Cerdon College where it is today used as the headquarters for Catholic charity Youth Off The Streets.</p>
1856	<p>First Vauxhall Inn opened on the Dog Trap Rd near the corner of the Sydney Rd (Parramatta Rd) and the Parramatta Junction Railway Station. The Inn was rebuilt in the 1870s, 1909 and the 1930s.</p> <p>c1856 - 'Carhullen' built by Randolph John Want at Granville/Merrylands. The estate was carved up in 1880 and then further subdivided in 1910 so that the house faced William St, Granville in the block bordered today by Carhullen St and Bennalong St. In 1943 the Catholic Church bought the property and the historic house was demolished c1960 to make way for a monastery.</p>
1857	<p>Act passed by NSW Colonial Government to sell off most of the Parramatta Domain lands, including the 'West Meadow' (Westmead)</p> <p>Wheat Sheaf Inn was operating on Parramatta Rd, near Station Rd. The Inn reputedly dated from the 1830s but had closed by the 1880s when its owner had a new hotel built on the opposite side of Parramatta Rd that became the Melton Hotel, named after a British racehorse of the period.</p>

1858	Australia's first railway accident occurred at Haslams Creek. Two people died and other passengers were injured on 10 July while a train was en route from Parramatta Junction (Granville) to Sydney
1859-61	Part of the Parramatta Domain was sold off and a sizeable portion of land situated in modern Westmead and Wentworthville was acquired by William Fullagar. Other buyers included George Oakes who built 'Casuarina' in Oakes St; Nathaniel Payten who built 'Deskford' on Hawkesbury Rd (now part of the Cabrini Aged Care complex) and Parramatta architect, James Houison who built 'Nairn Villa' on Hawkesbury Rd. The sandstone villa was later demolished and the stone re-used in the construction of St Barnabas Anglican Church in the 1950s.
1859	Haslams Creek (Lidcombe) Railway Station officially opened. The station was situated in the middle of the Therry Estate. The area was then an isolated rural settlement dependent on timber getting and grazing. The station was renamed Rookwood in 1878 and then Lidcombe in 1914. The station was upgraded in 1881 and 1924 when the railway line was quadrupled. In 1912 the first stage of a new railway line from Lidcombe to Bankstown was opened, terminating at Regents Park. In 1997 a new platform was added for the Olympic Park railway branch line.
1862	Subdivision began of the Drainwell Estate (originally Garnham Blaxcell's 1,250 land grant) at Parramatta Junction which was situated beside the recently opened railway line, paving the way for the future suburb of Granville to be created.
1867	Rookwood Cemetery (originally called Haslams Ck) opened as Sydney's new burial ground. The Necropolis covered 777 acres (more than 300 hectares) and included a branch line off the Western railway line with four stations to transport coffins and mourners to the various sections of the cemetery. The cemetery line closed in 1948 as car usage became the standard mode of transport. Rookwood Crematorium was built in 1930. First Lidcombe subdivision - "Town of St Joseph" released in May. Father John Joseph Therry planned the 'Township of St Joseph' prior to his death. Two streets in the estate commemorate him: John St and Joseph St. The new housing estate was ideal for workers laying out the new Necropolis nearby as well as people in associated industries such as monumental masons. To this day there are still monumental masons based at Lidcombe, most notably Larcombe Memorials near the corner of Railway and East Streets.
1868	Sherwood Drain, Tile & Pottery Works established by Arthur Holroyd on a corner of his estate following a successful attempt to make drainpipes from the local clay

	<p>in order to improve the drainage on his property. The business later became the Walker Benson tile company in 1917 and is today Central Gardens at Merrylands West.</p>
1870	<p>James Bergan's Woollen Mill was established on the south side of the railway line, at Granville, in the vicinity of the current Granville Centre and Memorial Swimming Pool. It closed in 1920. Other industries followed including, tanneries and William Ritchie's agricultural machinery business, relocated from Parramatta, to the opposite bank of Duck Creek between Bergan's and the future site of Hudson Bros/Clyde Engineering. On the north side of the railway line Byrnes' Tweed factory was located opposite Clyde Railway Station.</p> <p>c1870 - 'The Gables', 59 East St, Lidcombe built. The property was acquired in 1902 by Frederick Lidbury, (a former Mayor of Rookwood).</p>
1871	<p>Sydney Meat Preserving Company opened on a large site at Lidcombe, covering 146 acres, fronting Parramatta Rd with Haslams Ck running through it. The company's land was bordered by what are now Percy St, North Auburn and John St. During WWI & WWII SMP Co supplied canned meat to the armed forces. The company was taken over by FJ Walker Ltd in 1919. The Lidcombe works closed on 31 July 1964 and the Company was dissolved in 1973. By 1964 only 32 acres of the original 146 remained as much of the SMP Co's land was sold off as Lidcombe and Auburn developed.</p>
1871-2	<p>Church and School Lands at Merrylands were sold off by the NSW Colonial Government enabling development to begin.</p>
1872	<p>Congregational Church built at Joseph St, Lidcombe – first church in the area - it was replaced by a grander structure in 1921. During the 1980s the church was sold to the Armenian Apostolic Church which added a new façade in 2002.</p> <p>Prospect & Sherwood Council formed and Arthur Todd Holroyd was elected first mayor. Council met in temporary premises until it had enough money to build the first Council Chambers at Mays Hill in 1887.</p>
1874	<p>NSW Government acquired a large parcel of land on the eastern side of Duck River to establish railway yards – later known as the Clyde Marshalling Yards from 1891 – to provide workshops, maintenance and support services for railway traffic, including the construction of rail sidings for the various industries that were established along this rail corridor over the following decades. On the north side of the line these industries included the Australian Kerosene & Oil Co, Sandown Freezing Works, the Shell Refinery, James Hardie Industries,</p>

	<p>Wunderlich, Byrnes' Woollen Mills, Ammonia Company of Australia and Goodyear Tyre Company. On the south side of the line were Hudson Bros (later Clyde Engineering), Bergan's Mills, Brunton's Flour Mills, Clyde Chlorination Works, Ritchie's Agricultural Implements, Ritchie Bros Carriage Works and Henry Vale and Sons.</p>
1875	<p>First St Stephen's Church of England (Anglican) Church built at Taylor St, Lidcombe. It was replaced by the St Stephen's Soldiers' Memorial Church in 1916.</p>
1876	<p>Guildford Railway Station opened and subdivision began on the eastern side of the railway line with the release of Stimson's Estate, south of Guildford Rd. Guildford Railway Station Estate followed on the western side of the line in 1884.</p> <p>A syndicate of land developers, headed by John Yelverton Mills, of Mills & Pile, began subdividing land around the Western railway line for a new settlement which they named Auburn – reputedly after a village described in a popular poem by Oliver Goldsmith as <i>"Sweet Auburn loveliest village of the Plain"</i>.</p> <p>Rookwood Railway Hotel (now the Railway Hotel) opened as the Haslams Creek Railway Hotel in Joseph St, Lidcombe but the name changed a year later.</p>
1877	<p>26 January - New Glasgow Estate released at Parramatta Junction (Granville) near Duck River. This subdivision included two major streets with Glaswegian associations – Clyde St and The Trongate.</p> <p>First tannery commenced operations on the western side of Duck Ck (Granville) which later became Marsh Bros. Closed 1940s.</p> <p>Auburn Railway Station opened – initially it was just a simple wooden platform and siding. Macquarie Rd was constructed to provide access from Parramatta Rd to the new railway station.</p>
1878	<p>Auburn Township subdivision released on 1st June. Streets were named after the families of Queen Victoria and John Yelverton Mills. The first industries move into the area - Ritchie Bros, carriage builders, closely followed by H. Vale & Sons, Engineers' who built locomotives. These companies provided immediate local employment which attracted residents to Auburn. Both companies had built new factories beside the railway line by 1883-84.</p> <p>Merrylands Railway Station opened to service newly subdivided land in the vicinity of the station, including the former Church & Schools Lands.</p> <p>Junction Brick and Pottery Co. Ltd established on a 31-acre site owned by Andrew Sutherland Low beside the railway line at Granville (now Holroyd Gardens)</p>

	<p>bounded by Walpole and Pitt Streets and The Crescent. The chimneystack was the tallest structure in the district at that time. The company produced the bricks that were used in the construction of Low's mansion, Sutherland House (Locksley Hall). Closed 1880.</p> <p>Haslams Ck village was renamed Rookwood and the Necropolis adopts the same name – the latter is still known as Rookwood today.</p> <p>Royal Oak Hotel – opened at Rookwood (Lidcombe).</p>
1879	<p>Lidcombe Public School was officially opened on the 3rd March and was then known as Rookwood Public School. A fire destroyed the school in 1941 and new buildings were subsequently erected.</p>
	<p>Late Colonial Period – 1880 to 1899</p>
1880s	<p>Merrylands West developed as a staging post along the route from Parramatta to Liverpool via Burnett St and Sherwood Rd.</p> <p>Large estates in Smithfield, Greystanes and Merrylands West were broken up into smaller farming blocks, orchards and vineyards including 'Cockatoo Farm' / 'Woodpark', Joseph Kenyon's 'Woodlands' Estate, 'and Arthur Holroyd's 'Sherwood Scrubs' estate.</p> <p>Subdivision of Granville and South Granville gathered pace with numerous estates released during the 1880s land boom including Granville Township, Evesham Park and the Eastwell Estate (1881), Hudsonville Estate (1882), the Granville portion of Elizabeth Farm (1883), Lisgar Estate (1883 & 1886), Clyde (1884), Park Hill Estate & Granville Heights (1885), Mt Morgan (1887) and a re-subdivision of Castner's estate which was first subdivided during the 1870s.</p>
1880	<p>Chisholm Estate subdivided releasing a large tract of land on the western side of modern Auburn bordering Duck River as well as part of modern South Granville.</p> <p>Upper Nepean Scheme commenced to provide Sydney with a reliable water supply. The scheme channelled the headwaters of the Upper Nepean River and three of its tributaries to a reservoir built at Prospect and from there to a holding basin at Guildford – known as Pipe Head - via the Lower Prospect Canal. From Pipe Head the water was piped to Potts Hill Reservoir and onto a series of other holding reservoirs around Sydney. Vast areas of land were resumed for the project including the Lawson estate, built by William Lawson, on the western side of Prospect Hill where the Prospect Reservoir was constructed. The army of labourers involved in the construction phases camped in a virtual 'tent city' at Prospect near Hyland Rd, Greystanes. The Prospect and Potts Hill Reservoirs, Boothtown (Greystanes) Aqueduct and Lower Prospect Canal were completed in</p>

	<p>1888. Further works followed intermittently, including a second reservoir at Potts Hill, until the late 1920s.</p> <p>Parramatta Junction was renamed Granville after George Leveson Gower the 2nd Earl of Granville who was England’s Foreign Minister from 1871-74 and 1880-85.</p> <p>Toongabbie Railway Station opened.</p> <p>‘Evesham’ house built for John Nobbs in William St, Granville. Nobbs (1845-1921) was a conveyancer who became Granville’s first Mayor and then the local State MP for more than 20 years. He is remembered as the ‘Father of Granville’ for his tireless efforts to develop and promote Granville.</p> <p>Holy Trinity Catholic Church built at Randle St, Granville. It was replaced by a larger church in 1906 which burnt down in 1907 so a third church was built in 1908. The presbytery was added in the 1890s and then replaced in 1918.</p> <p>First Merrylands post office opened at Merrylands Station.</p>
1881	<p>Granville Public School opened on 11 January</p> <p>First subdivision for a Temperance Township called ‘Gough Town’ released at Merrylands on part of the former Church & School Lands. The estate - named after John Bartholomew Gough, a high-profile Temperance advocate in the US – was bordered by Merrylands Rd, Fowler Rd, Chetwynd Rd and Matthew St, with wide streets in a grid-like pattern surrounding Lawson Square. Some of the street names have Temperance Movement associations including Holdsworth who instigated the subdivision.</p> <p>Granville Hotel built at the corner of Bridge and Good Streets – remodelled in 1914.</p> <p>Sutherland House (later renamed Locksley Hall) a boom-style mansion was built by mining magnate Andrew Sutherland Low. The estate included extensive grounds, a lake and a gatehouse. The gatehouse, known as “The Lodge” still survives at 56 Merrylands Rd as a private residence.</p> <p>‘Wentworthville’ – the first subdivision of the Wentworth Estate was released.</p>
1882	<p>Wentworthville Railway Station opened – it was initially called T.R. Smith’s platform after the subdivider of the estate.</p> <p>Rosehill Junction Railway Station opened - it was renamed Clyde in 1883 – to service new factories that were starting up between Duck River and Duck Creek.</p>

	<p>Dog Trap Rd was renamed Woodville Rd, after the Woodville Estate located on the corner of Guildford Rd owned by Sir John Lackey (1830-1903), a local MP and influential figure in Granville's development. He was Secretary for Public Works from 1875-77 and then 1878-1883. Lackey St, Merrylands is named after him. Woodville Rd is one of the oldest roads in Cumberland and it was originally called 'Dog Trap' because dingoes still roamed around its vicinity in the early-mid 19th Century and the early settlers would go on trapping expeditions to kill them.</p> <p>Wesleyan Church opened in William St, Granville. Later relocated to the corner of Russell and Carlton Streets.</p>
1883	<p>Westmead Railway Station opened.</p> <p>Hudson Bros Engineering works was established on a 30-acre site at Clyde, between Duck River, the railway line and Factory St. They built railway locomotives, rolling stock and tram cars. The company collapsed in the 1890s Depression but was resurrected as Clyde Engineering and was a major employer in the surrounding area for many years. (The foundation stone was laid in August 1882).</p> <p>A large number of Scottish migrants had settled in Granville by the 1880s, attracted by employment in the various new factories which had sprung up since the 1870s. Hudson Bros also brought in 18 skilled migrant workers from Glasgow and Kilmarnock in 1882 to help start up their new engineering works.</p>
1884	<p>1883-84 – 'Duncraggan Hall' built in Alice St, Auburn by timber merchant, John Buchanan. In 1892 it was sold to the Sisters of Charity to become St Joseph's Hospital and when the hospital outgrew the building it was used as a convent.</p> <p>Goodlet & Smith acquired the defunct Junction Brickworks and began manufacturing bricks and tiles and then cement at the Granville site.</p> <p>John Mahony's slaughter yard established at Granville on a site between Blaxcell St and Duck River. It closed in 1919 when slaughtering was prohibited in the metropolitan area.</p> <p>St Mark's Church of England (now Anglican) Church opened on the corner of Mary and Jamieson Streets, Granville. Designed by Edmund & Cyril Blackett. It replaced an 1877 'Iron Church' on the Sydney Rd (Parramatta Rd) near A'Becketts Ck. In 1902 a rectory was built beside the church.</p> <p>Catholic school opened at Holy Trinity Church, in Randle St, Granville run by Sisters of St Joseph.</p> <p>Granville School of Arts opened in Good St (Granville's oldest public building).</p>

	<p>Royal Hotel opened at the corner of South and Russell Streets, Granville.</p> <p>‘Dunmore House’ built at Wentworthville (Pendle Hill) by businessman and NSW politician, Sir William McMillan as his country property. In 1920 American entrepreneur, George A. Bond bought the property and started his Wentworthville cotton spinning mill in a neighbouring paddock three years later. Dunmore House is now part of an aged care residential complex.</p>
1885	<p>Granville Municipal Council formed.</p> <p>Granville Technical College opened in the School of Arts building. It moved to a new site between South and Lumley Streets in 1909.</p> <p>Knox Presbyterian Church built at 14 Hutchinson St, Granville. The Knox Manse was built in 1930 and Knox Hall in 1959.</p> <p>Granville Baptist Church opened in Blaxcell St. A new church was subsequently built in 1911 at the corner of William and South Streets.</p> <p>Granville Police Station built at 10-12 Hutchinson St – extensions in 1907-11. It was replaced by the current police station in Carlton St, opened by NSW Premier Kristina Keneally, in 2011.</p> <p>Guildford West started to develop around Pipe Head with the release of Wiley’s Subdivision and Sherwood Heights Estate.</p> <p>St Joachim’s Catholic parish began at Mills St, Lidcombe and a school run by the Sisters of St Joseph started the following year. In 1926 the current church was built. In 1913 St Joachim’s Catholic School moved into its own premises.</p>
1886	<p>1885-86 – Land in the future Berala and Regents Park suburbs was first subdivided as the Hyde Park Estate, taking the name of the first land grant in the area, which covered 625 acres and was given to Joseph Hyde Potts. The area was sparsely settled until the 20th Century due to its remoteness from major transport arteries and was mainly occupied by isolated small farms and dairies.</p> <p>A series of small single storey workers’ cottages, mostly in weatherboard with iron roofs, built from the late 1880s to early 1900s still survives on this estate in the ‘number’ streets between Nottinghill, Hyde Park, Kibo and Kingsland Rds.</p> <p>Church of Christ opened its first chapel at Joseph St, Lidcombe. This was replaced in 1929 by a larger church at Vaughan St. The church building has now become the Tento Slovensky Koskol – the Slovak Catholic Church of St Cyril and St Methodius.</p>

	<p>First Auburn Hotel opened on South Pde (now Kerr Pde). Closes c1914.</p> <p>St Philip's Church of England (now Anglican) Church hall commenced services on Macquarie Rd, Auburn. The first church was later replaced by the current building in 1921.</p> <p>Auburn Public School opened. In 1915 the second stage of the school was built on Beatrice St, diagonally opposite the original school.</p> <p>Goughtown Public School opened in a rented house – moved to current school site in 1888 and was renamed Merrylands Public School in 1912.</p> <p>Congregational Church opened at the corner of Prince, Good and Victoria Streets on the north side of Granville.</p> <p>Gas supply connected to Granville and gas street lighting commenced.</p>
1887	<p>Primitive Methodist Church built at Woodstock St. It was replaced by a larger church in 1911, situated on Guildford Rd.</p> <p>Brunton's Flour Mill was built on a large piece of land beside the railway line - now occupied by the TAB head office and Granville RSL Club. Brunton's was acquired by George Fielder & Co. Ltd in 1960 and the Granville mill closed shortly afterwards. The site was later sold to Granville RSL.</p> <p>Granville Park officially opened on 17 September.</p> <p>Prospect & Sherwood Town Hall opened at the corner of Burnett St and the Great Western Hwy, Mays Hill.</p> <p>Gas mains laid to Auburn by the Australian Gas Light Company.</p>
1889	<p>1888-89 – Henry Whitaker died and his estate, 'Orchardleigh', at Guildford was subdivided as Whittaker's Estate. The Estate stretched from Guildford Rd to Prospect Ck and Fairfield Rd to the railway line plus a small portion of land on the eastern side of the line in Old Guildford. An earlier subdivision by Whitaker, called the Orchardleigh Estate at Old Guildford was released in 1883.</p> <p>Granville South Public School opened.</p> <p>Chatswood based Mashman Brothers Pottery expanded its operations with a branch at Auburn under the management of John Mashman. He acquired a small pottery on the north side of Parramatta Rd between Newton and Junction Streets and renamed it the 'Carrington Pottery Works'. The company produced terracotta sewer and agricultural pipes and garden pots at Auburn. Mashman merged with</p>

	<p>Royal Doulton in 1957 but the Auburn works continued to manufacture pipes and fittings until production finally ceased in 1983.</p> <p>Granville connected to town water supply.</p> <p>First Granville Council Chambers opened in 1889 and the Town Hall extension was added in 1900.</p>
1890s–1910s	<p>1890s–1910s - Guildford develops with the release of Guildford Township subdivisions near the railway station on the western side; John Lackey’s Woodville Estate between Guildford Rd and Henry St on the eastern side; and then in 1910 the Springfield Estate at Old Guildford. Isolated sections of Greystanes, Merrylands West and South Wentworthville were subdivided into small farming blocks, called ‘farmlets’ that were marketed as suitable land for poultry farms and market gardening. These estates included Cumberland Model Farms (1892), Boothtown Model Irrigation Farms (1893), then Devon Farmlets (1911) and Wentworthville Farms (1913).</p>
1890	<p>First Wentworthville Post Office opened on Dunmore St. It was replaced by a grander building in 1926.</p>
1891	<p>‘Linnwood’ was built at Byron Rd, Guildford by architect and consulting engineer, George McCredie who bought a portion of Whittaker’s Estate, to build a country house for his family. The McCredie family became active in the local community with George serving as Mayor of Prospect & Sherwood from 1892-5 and his son, Ludovic serving as an Alderman from 1911-1917 and Mayor from 1912-14. From 1921 to 1993 ‘Linnwood’ was owned by the NSW Government and used as a Truant School from 1917 (leased initially from the McCredie family) until 1936 and then as a girls’ domestic science school and home. In 2003, following community lobbying to save the Italianate style villa from demolition and redevelopment, ‘Linnwood’ was listed on the State Heritage Register and has been managed since then by the Friends of Linnwood Inc in conjunction with Council.</p> <p>Auburn North Public School opened.</p> <p>Wentworthville Public School opened.</p> <p>Rookwood Council formed – first meeting held in February 1892.</p> <p>Granville Post & Telegraph Office opened in Railway Pde – relocated to a new building at South Pde in 1970.</p>

1892	<p>Auburn Council formed. In 1906 Newington Ward was added (Silverwater & Homebush Bay). Council meetings were held at Lea's Temperance Hotel on the corner of Mary and Park Roads until the first Council Chambers were built.</p> <p>Royal Hotel opened at the corner Auburn Rd and Queen St, Auburn. The first publican was Charles Henry Curtis who had previously been the Licensee of the 'Nil Desperandum' Hotel at the Prospect Reservoir Camp from 1886-88 before moving to Potts Hill. The Hotel was sold to Tooths & Co in 1939 who redeveloped it into a modern Art Deco building in 'P&O Ship' style. The Royal Hotel closed in 1983 and was demolished in 1985 to make way for the Auburn Central development.</p> <p>Mains water connected to Prospect & Sherwood, beginning with Mays Hill.</p> <p>St Matthew's Mission Church (Anglican) began services in Arcadia St, Merrylands West. It was relocated to Ridge St in 1972.</p>
1893	<p>Lidcombe Hospital opened as Rookwood Asylum for the Infirm and Destitute on a 1300-acre (526 Hectare) site south-west of Rookwood Cemetery. In 1927 its name changed to Lidcombe State Hospital and in 1966 to Lidcombe Hospital. The Hospital closed in 1995.</p> <p>First Auburn Catholic Church – St John's Church/School – began services in Queen St</p>
1894	<p>1890s Depression forced closure of Hudson Bros Clyde operation. It also ruins former Prospect & Sherwood Mayor, John Booth, leading to the sale of his farm called 'Boothtown' at Greystanes.</p>
1895	<p>Locomotive Hotel opened on Parramatta Rd, Auburn replacing the Farmer's Arms Hotel. The Hotel was rebuilt in 1922 after being acquired by Tooth & Company.</p>
1897	<p>Rookwood Town Hall opened in Church St and the Post Office also moved into the new building from its former location at the railway station.</p> <p>First Merrylands Hotel opened at the corner of Sherwood and Merrylands Roads in Merrylands West. In 1922 a new Merrylands Hotel was built on the corner of Merrylands Rd and Pitt St as the business and shopping precinct shifted closer to the railway station. The original pub was demolished in 1964 to make way for Merrylands West shopping village.</p>

1898	<p>First Auburn Town Hall opened in Auburn Rd with a Post Office housed in a wing of the new building. The Post Office was previously at Auburn Railway Station.</p> <p>Auburn Park founded - Auburn Council resumed 25 acres of land in North Auburn. The land was then known as Gibbons' Paddock and had already been used with permission by its owner, John Rose Hutchinson Gibbons, for Auburn's celebrations to mark Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee on 22 June 1897. Gibbons was an Alderman on Auburn Council and Mayor from 1899-1901.</p> <p>Hudson Bros resurrected as Clyde Engineering Co. Ltd at Clyde/Granville. Clyde Engineering grew into a major local employer for decades until it finally closed in 1972.</p> <p>First Merrylands Police Station opened at Merrylands West. It was succeeded by a new police station at Merrylands, near the station, in 1964 and then the current building at Memorial Ave in 1999.</p> <p>First Merrylands Post Office opened at Merrylands West and was known as 'The Dairy Post Office' because it occupied the former Holroyd Estate dairy. In 1912 it was renamed Merrylands and then in 1924 it became Merrylands West when a new Merrylands Post Office opened near the railway station in Chertsey St (now Memorial Ave).</p>
1899	<p>Lidcombe Fire Station opened in Church St – building is still in use.</p> <p>Trenholm Tile Works established at Auburn in West St, near Duck River. Closed 1974.</p> <p>Regents Park becomes known as Potts Hill after the prominent local landmark (now part of Canterbury-Bankstown LGA) and the first school opened in that name. In 1929 the name changed to Regents Park Public School. The first of the three prominent Sydney Water pipelines running between Potts Hill and Pipe Head at Guildford was constructed in 1888, the second in 1900 and the third in 1925.</p>
Early 20th Century – 1900 to 1913	
1900 – 1914	Auburn shopping precinct takes shape along Auburn Rd, South Pde and Queen St.
1900	Granville Fire Station opened in Good St – extended 1909, closed 1945.
1901	First Regents Park Post Office opened beside the primary school but was then called North Bankstown Post Office. In 1950 a new Regents Park Post Office

	<p>opened next to the Regents Park Hotel but since then it has moved to the opposite side of Amy St.</p> <p>Emu Gravel Company (renamed the Emu & Prospect Road Gravel and Metal Company in 1903) opened a quarry at Prospect and then a private rail line from Prospect to Toongabbie Railway Station to transport the quarried material to market. The line passed through what is now Girraween en route to the station. The line closed in 1945. The company is now part of Boral.</p>
1902-13	Merrylands develops with the release of several subdivisions including Loftus Park, Elsinore Park, Oxford Park, the Factory Estate and the Station Estate.
1902	<p>Greystanes Public School opened – it was initially called Harper Street Public School, as Merrylands Rd at Greystanes was still known as Harper St at this time.</p> <p>St Thomas’ Church of England (Anglican) established at Provincial St, South Auburn as a branch of St Philips.</p>
1905	<p>McCredie Memorial Presbyterian Church erected on the corner of Guildford and Byron Roads. Following George McCredie’s sudden death in 1903 his widow, Susan, donated money for the construction of the Church. Susan McCredie also donated 10 acres of land behind ‘Linnwood’ to Prospect & Sherwood Council to be dedicated as McCredie Park.</p> <p>Auburn Presbyterian Church built at Queen St, Auburn. It was extended in 1921 and a Manse purchased at 41 Rawson St in 1927.</p> <p>Town water connected to Auburn and Rookwood (Lidcombe) via pipes linked to the Potts Hill Reservoir.</p>
1906	<p>Granville Methodist Church opened. Site now occupied by Carlton Court Retirement Village.</p> <p>1906-7 – Identity of Potts Hill area (Regents Park) changed to Sefton Park prompting the post office and school to synchronise their names to Sefton Park.</p>
1908	<p>Granville Salvation Army Hall opened on Parramatta Rd.</p> <p>Auburn School of Arts opened in Queen St.</p>

	<p>Auburn Fire Station opened in Harrow Rd. The weatherboard building was replaced by a more substantial brick structure in 1935. It closed in 1994 and the building was later demolished.</p> <p>A Cottage Hospital opened in Norval St, Auburn; in 1920 it became Auburn District Hospital. The first building was replaced by a modern multi-storey Auburn Hospital in 1961. The Hospital was redeveloped again in 2003.</p>
1909	<p>Auburn railway station upgrade officially opened. The upgrade comprised a substantial railway station building, platforms and overbridge. In 1954 another two platforms were added to the station and in 1993-4 major maintenance works were carried out.</p>
1910	<p>North Auburn Methodist Church opened at the corner of Macquarie and Parramatta Roads after being relocated from its previous site in Kihilla Rd. In 1924 a new church replaced the earlier wooden building.</p> <p>Tractor and agricultural equipment manufacturer Caldwell Vale began operations at Park Rd, Auburn. The company was formed by the Caldwell brothers (Felix and Norman) together with Henry Vale. In 1916 Caldwell Vale was taken over by T. Purcell & Co which became Purcell Engineering from 1921. The Company produced a range of machinery, tools and ball and roller bearings. It closed in 1972.</p> <p>Granville's first cinema, the Granville Picture Palace opened in Railway Pde.</p> <p>Auburn Brick Company opened at Princes Rd, Auburn (now Regents Park). It closed in 1948.</p> <p>St Patrick's Catholic Church and Primary School opened at Guildford. The Church was replaced in 1935.</p> <p>Auburn's first (open-air) cinema opens at the corner of Rawson and Macquarie Roads.</p>
1911	<p>Castle Theatre opened in South St, Granville.</p>
1912	<p>Lidcombe to Regents Park railway line constructed with two new stations called Berala and Regents Park. However, the line's main purpose at this stage was to service construction of the Potts Hill Reservoir, in order to provide the district with a reliable piped water supply. Potts Hill/Sefton Park gradually became known as Regents Park in line with the name of the new railway station. This was</p>

	reinforced by new residential and commercial subdivisions also using the name Regents Park from 1917 onwards.
1913	<p>Rookwood changed its name to Lidcombe – in honour of two former Mayors: Lidbury and Larcombe.</p> <p>Auburn Post Office relocated from the Town Hall to its own purpose-built premises at the corner of Kerr Pde and Auburn Rd. In 1999 it moved to the other side of Kerr Pde and a medical centre was built in its place.</p> <p>First Queen’s Theatre “picture palace” opened in Queen St at the corner of Harrow Rd. It was revamped in 1920; closed in 1934 when the new Civic Theatre opened in South Pde; and then re-opened as a dance hall called The Embassy. In 1937 it was remodelled again and reverted to a cinema. The cinema closed in 1958 and the site was turned into a service station.</p> <p>Young’s Buildings, 11-13 South St, Granville – built for W. Horton Young, a chemist.</p> <p>St Mary’s Church of England (Anglican) opened at Bolton St, Guildford. Now renamed Guildford Anglican Church.</p> <p>Elite Hall opened at Guildford. The Hall was later converted into the Guildford Regent Cinema which closed in 1967. The building is now used as the Guildford Community Centre.</p> <p>Guildford School of Arts and Mechanics Institute opened. It was replaced in 1933 by the Guildford Soldiers’ Memorial School of Arts, at the corner of Military Rd and Calliope St, which is still standing today.</p>
	World War I – 1914 to 1918
1914-1918	<p>World War I – men throughout Cumberland enlisted to fight in the War, including two Council Aldermen; Auburn Mayor, William (Bill) Johnson and Richard (Dick) Yeend from Merrylands. Both died in the conflict. Yeend St, Merrylands is named in memory of Richard Yeend. Some local nurses also volunteered their services at the Front, including Pauline Hyland, from Greystanes. Her family lived on a farm at Hylands Rd and ran the local post office. On the Home Front civilians supported the War effort in a variety of ways. Some joined patriotic groups such as the War Chest and Red Cross to raise funds and provide comfort parcels to send to local servicemen serving overseas; others knitted socks for servicemen or worked on special projects such as building houses for permanently disabled soldiers or War Widows.</p>

1914	<p>Second Auburn Hotel opens on Queen St – it was realigned and rebuilt in the early 1950s and now faces Civic Rd.</p> <p>Berala Station Estate subdivision released.</p> <p>Wentworthville School of Arts opened. It was demolished in the 1980s.</p>
1915	<p>Prospect & Sherwood Council's second Council Chambers and Town Hall were officially opened by local MP, J.T. Lang, who later became Premier of NSW. Designed by architect, Donald Esplin (1874-1960), the building still stands at the corner of Arcadia and Arthur Streets, Merrylands West.</p> <p>Lidcombe Catholic Workers Club begins as a sporting and recreation club for young Catholic men in the Lidcombe District. The Club was developed into a social club open to all during the 1970s and is today known as Dooleys Catholic Social Club located at Church St, Lidcombe. In recent years Dooleys has acquired two other clubs in the district – at Silverwater and Regents Park.</p> <p>Swift's Buildings constructed on the Guildford Rd shopping strip, east of the railway line for Thomas Swift, a retired grazier who became Mayor of Granville in 1921. Swift lived at 36 Bolton St, Guildford in a Federation style house which still stands today.</p> <p>Guildford Public School opened.</p> <p>Wentworthville Open-Air Theatre commenced but was soon replaced by the Peace Picture Palace in Dunmore St. The Peace Picture Palace was refurbished and renamed the Orion Theatre in 1929 but closed in 1934 when the rival Regent Theatre opened in Station St.</p>
1916	<p>St John of God, Catholic Church opened at Auburn and was extended in 1937. The original presbytery was replaced in 1970.</p> <p>First St Anne's Church of England (now Anglican) Church is built at Merrylands. The weatherboard structure was replaced by the current brick church in 1956.</p> <p>Toongabbie Estate released – first subdivision of Girraween, quickly followed by the Girraween Estate and the Portico Estate.</p>
1917	<p>Sydney Adventist School established at Auburn at the rear of the Seventh Day Adventist Church in Macquarie Rd</p> <p>Westmead Public School opened.</p>

	<p>First bus service in the Auburn district commenced – route ran from Auburn Station to Newington State Hospital and Home (Silverwater). Services between Granville, Guildford, Merrylands and Parramatta followed in the 1920s to replace horse-drawn buses which had operated since 1903.</p>
1918	<p>Auburn's first Ambulance Service began in a small room at Railway Park.</p> <p>Girraween Post Office and the Girraween School of Arts both opened.</p>
	<p>Inter-War Period – 1919 to 1939</p>
1919	<p>Girraween Public School opened.</p> <p>Auburn Methodist (now Uniting) Church built at the corner of Helena St and Harrow Rd to replace the original weatherboard church hall built in 1888. The old church hall was transferred to Wentworthville where it still stands in McKern St.</p> <p>St Peter Chanel Catholic Church began in a rented church/hall in Third Ave, Berala that was dedicated in 1923 and moved to a new site in 1928. The Church and school then both moved to Regent St in 1940. In March 1959 the current church opened on Kingsland Rd.</p>
1919-20	<p>Marne Park Estate Soldiers' Settlement Scheme (War Service Homes project) commenced at North Lidcombe. Marne Park was originally released in 1916 for private sale. The street names all have WWI associations. By 1922 nearly 100 houses had been erected on the estate, predominantly for returned servicemen.</p> <p>St Paul's Church of England – now Wentworthville Anglican Church built. The current church was built in the early 1960s.</p>
1920s	<p>Sydney Housing boom – expansion period for all of Cumberland. Suburbs of Girraween, Pendle Hill, Yennora, Berala and Regents Park came into being while older suburbs experienced further development including Wentworthville, Westmead, Merrylands and Auburn. New shops opened in retail strips near the railway stations throughout Cumberland to serve the new housing estates.</p> <p>Electricity came to Cumberland area. Gas mains implemented in 19th Century; Sewerage connections began at Auburn and reached Wentworthville by the onset of WWII but most of the former Holroyd LGA was not sewered until the Post-war years. (Lidcombe's electricity supply began in 1915 for private consumers only).</p> <p>Local taxi and hire car services started in the district.</p>

1920	<p>Berala Presbyterian Church (now Uniting) opened in Tilba St, Berala. A manse was built the following year and then a more substantial church building in 1924.</p> <p>Our Lady of Mt Carmel Catholic Primary School opened at Wentworthville under its original name, St Columba's.</p> <p>Butterfly Theatre opened at Merrylands.</p> <p>Pendle Hill School of Arts opened.</p> <p>Lidcombe Post Office opened in its own building at the corner of Joseph and Taylor Streets, after previously operating from the Lidcombe Town Hall since 1901. Now closed.</p>
1921	<p>Merrylands School of Arts opened. The building on Merrylands Rd, near Treves St has since become the Merrylands Youth Centre.</p> <p>13 November - Lidcombe War Memorial unveiled at Wellington Park.</p>
1922	<p>Second Merrylands Hotel opened. It was re-modelled in the mid-1950s and has been called the Billabong Hotel since 1958.</p> <p>Berala Public School opened.</p> <p>Electricity came to Holroyd, initially for street lighting and then for domestic use. The former electricity building stood behind the current Merrylands Administration Centre in Memorial Ave but was demolished c1985.</p> <p>30 April - Auburn War Memorial unveiled by Major General Sir Charles Rosenthal at Railway Park, on the north side of Auburn Railway Station. It has been moved to two other sites in the intervening years but is now back at what is today called Auburn Memorial Park.</p> <p>Granville War Memorial unveiled at the corner of Carlton and Russell Streets, opposite the Granville Town Hall.</p> <p>Rust's Buildings constructed on Guildford Rd, Guildford.</p> <p>Congregational Church built at John St, Lidcombe. Church hall known as the Allen Hall opened next door in 1928. The Church was sold in 1978 to the Armenian Catholic Church. Following in extensions and renovations in 2002-3 it was consecrated as Our Lady of the Assumption Armenian Catholic Church on 6th March 2004.</p>

1923	<p>Bonds factory opened at Wentworthville (Pendle Hill). It closed in 2010 and the site with its heritage-listed structures was sold in 2012.</p> <p>Auburn Baby Health Clinic opened in Northumberland Rd, North Auburn. (The service had operated since 1920 in the Auburn Town Hall). It was replaced in 1945.</p> <p>UK boilermaking and engineering firm, Babcock & Wilcox, opened an Australian subsidiary at Regents Park. (It moved out of the area in 1989). Other industries had already established themselves in the vicinity near the Auburn Brickworks' including carriage building firm, Kilburn & Willick (which relocated from Merrylands where it started in 1910) and railway rolling stock manufacturer, Robert Kilborne Limited which closed in 1930.</p> <p>Merrylands Bus Company founded by the Try family.</p> <p>First Guildford Masonic Hall built. It was replaced in the Post-war years.</p>
1924	<p>1923-4 – Regents Park retail strip on the corner of Park Rd and Rose Crescent built to serve new subdivisions, growing industrial area and newly re-built railway station opposite. Shops included a general store, fruiterer, butcher, tea rooms and a real estate agent.</p> <p>Lidcombe to Cabramatta Railway line completed from Regents Park onwards and officially opened. Berala and Regents Park Stations - originally opened in 1912 as part of Stage 1 - had to be moved and rebuilt as part of the project.</p> <p>Guildford Post Office opened, replacing rented premises that had existed since 1915.</p> <p>Pendle Hill Railway Station opened due to a combination of local lobbying and the influence of clothing manufacturer, George A. Bond to service his newly opened cotton spinning mill.</p> <p>Salvation Army established a Corps at Lidcombe.</p> <p>Ford Motor Company established works at Lidcombe. In 1936 the company opened a major new Assembly Plant on Parramatta Rd, Lidcombe (now Homebush) on March 17. The plant was extended in 1938 and 1963. The last car rolled off the line in 1994 when the plant was closed. Circa 1959 Ford established a Truck assembly plant at Auburn on leased land. It closed in the early 1970s following the construction of a new truck plant at Broadmeadows, Victoria in 1971 as part of a major expansion of Ford's Australian operations.</p>

	<p>Granville Cinema opened at the corner of Good St and Parramatta Rd. Closed 1962.</p> <p>Widemere Quarry opened on the south-eastern side of Prospect Hill near Hylands Rd. It closed 20 years later.</p> <p>St Thomas' Church of England (Anglican) opened on Farnell St, Merrylands</p> <p>Blaxcell St Public School opened.</p> <p>Girraween Park officially opened on 25 October.</p>
1925	<p>A parcel of land adjoining Auburn Park was sold by John Gibbons to the NSW Education Department to become Auburn Girls High School.</p> <p>Regents Park Hotel opened in Amy St and over the next few years shops opened nearby on the eastern side of Regents Park Railway Station.</p> <p>Post Office agency opened at Berala. There were 150 residences in the suburb that year. It closed in 1994.</p> <p>Associated General Electric Industries (AGE) established a factory on the Auburn/Lidcombe boundary beside the future Lidcombe Oval and Wyatt Park, bordered by Church, Percy and Boorea Streets.</p> <p>AGE had been awarded the contract to supply equipment for the electrification of Sydney suburban railways by the NSW Government in 1924. In 1930 AGE merged with Metropolitan Vickers Australia, (M.V.A.), a subsidiary of the English Electrical Company, Metropolitan Vickers. In 1974 Metropolitan Vickers (now known as GEC) signed an agreement with Auburn Council to exchange its 17-acre (6.918 ha) Lidcombe site for land in Silverwater. In 1976 the buildings were demolished. The exchange enabled the expansion of Wyatt Park to provide additional sporting facilities, including the State Netball Centre. The GEC administration building remained on the opposite side of Boorea Rd/Olympic Dve and is today a Kennards Self Storage outlet.</p> <p>Granville Boys High School opened as Granville Junior Technical College. The name changed in 1961.</p> <p>Tron Kirk opened at Clyde St, South Granville to serve the large Scottish population in the area. Tron Kirk Hall was built in 1930 and the vestry added in 1953.</p>
1926	<p>McLeod's Flour Mills commenced operations at Merrylands in Terminal Place beside the railway station.</p>

	<p>Guildford Hotel opened on Guildford Rd.</p> <p>Lidcombe Council, with the assistance of NSW Premier J.T. (Jack) Lang, acquired land from the Sydney Meat Preserving Company along its southern boundary to create Wyatt Park.</p> <p>Westmead Progress Hall opened. The building still stands in Hassall St.</p>
1927	<p>Goodyear Australia (Tyre manufacturer) established a plant at Granville – closed 1990.</p> <p>Wentworthville Masonic Temple opened in Garfield St. It is now an Armenian Orthodox church.</p> <p>Mona Park created at Auburn.</p> <p>Scottish based Linoleum manufacturer, Michael Nairn & Co Ltd established a plant in Australia, at Auburn. The plant was sold c1970 and production ceased in 1976 before it finally closed and was demolished in 1983.</p> <p>Lidcombe Council acquired 20 acres of land for a park on Georges Ave which was initially used as the Lidcombe Showground. By the 1930s it was known as Lidcombe Park and in the late 1940s the park was substantially upgraded before being renamed Coleman Park after former Lidcombe Alderman, John Joseph Coleman. Coleman served on Lidcombe Council from 1940-1948 and then the amalgamated Auburn Council from 1949-50.</p> <p>Yennora Railway Station opened – paid for by members of the McCredie family to service a real estate development on a section of their land in Guildford. The new station provided easy access to their subdivisions that were released as Linnwood Estate, Yennora in 1927, Yennora I in 1928 and Yennora II in 1929.</p> <p>Prospect & Sherwood Council changed its name to Holroyd in honour of the Council's first Mayor, Arthur Todd Holroyd.</p>
1928	<p>Lidcombe Police Station built – a police constable had been stationed in the area since 1881.</p> <p>Second Auburn Baptist Church, built to seat 500 people, opened on Harrow Rd. The new church replaced an earlier building which is still beside it on the site.</p> <p>Jantzen (Australia) Ltd acquired the Australian rights of the US company Jantzen, and built a factory on Parramatta Road, between Mons and Ostend streets to manufacture swimsuits. By 1933 their operations had expanded into knitwear and during WWII Jantzen had war contracts to supply the Australian Armed</p>

	<p>Forces with knitwear. In 1946 the Art Deco style building was extended and the new section included a small tower. The company closed in January 1973 but the building still stands at 32 Parramatta Rd, Lidcombe. The building's architect was Henry E. White.</p> <p>Auburn Rd became the first road in the Municipality to be sealed.</p> <p>Shell Oil Refinery opened at Clyde (now Rosehill), beside Duck River, on short-lived former Commonwealth Oil Corporation site which had operated from 1924-5.</p> <p>Guildford Fire Station opened at Guildford Rd, Guildford. The new building replaced an earlier building that was erected in 1915.</p> <p>Merrylands Kinema opened on the corner of Merrylands Rd and Chertsey St (Memorial Ave). The grand building with Spanish Mission style façade was demolished in 1960 and replaced with shops.</p> <p>Merrylands Methodist Church built in Chertsey St. The building still stands.</p> <p>Historic St Andrew's Presbyterian Church was relocated from Parramatta to McKern St, Wentworthville where it still stands today.</p>
1929	<p>14 brick and tile works were in existence in the Merrylands area. In addition to Goodlet & Smith and Walker Benson there were also the Newman-Underwood Tile Company in Newman St (now King Park); Lazer's in Betts Rd; Tucknotts Tiles in Paton St; and Ferguson Bros in McFarlane St (now redeveloped as Stockland Merrylands Mall).</p> <p>St Enda's Catholic Church Hall built at Aurelia St, Toongabbie.</p> <p>Pritchard's Building erected in Auburn Rd, Auburn.</p>
1930s	<p>Great Depression – factory closures and unemployment. Clyde Engineering survived due to contracts for the construction of the Sydney Harbour Bridge. Local Councils undertake Unemployment Relief Works with Government grants to assist their residents who were out of work.</p>
1930	<p>Lidcombe Hotel opened at the corner of John and Church Streets.</p> <p>Merrylands RSL Sub-branch formed.</p> <p>Greystanes area dubbed "Little Malta" by Sydney Sun newspaper due to the influx of Maltese migrants since the 1910s who had settled in the area and taken</p>

	<p>up poultry farming or market gardening. By 1932 30% of the produce sold at the Sydney fruit and vegetable markets was supplied by Maltese market gardeners. Baiada Poultry and Cordina Farms are two of the biggest commercial success stories to emerge from the local Maltese community.</p>
1931	<p>Auburn Ambulance Station opened at the corner of Queen St and Harrow Rd. It closed c1996 but the building still stands.</p> <p>Hotel Keighery opened at Auburn on the corner of Rawson Rd and Station St. The Hotel was named after its first licensee, Mr Gregory Keighery.</p> <p>Greystanes Progress Hall built. A fire destroyed the Hall in 1971. It was replaced by the Greystanes Community Centre in 1973. Greystanes Library was included as part of the new building and a baby health centre.</p>
1932	<p>Sewerage connections began in Auburn township. Work commenced on the sewerage scheme in 1926 and was completed for both Auburn and Lidcombe in the 1930s with the help of Depression Relief workers. The western part of Cumberland remained unsewered until the Post-war years.</p> <p>English Electric Company established a plant on the north side of the railway line at Clyde. This was taken over by Waddingtons in 1937 (later Comeng).</p>
1933	<p>1932/33 - Lidcombe Oval developed (as part of Wyatt Park) as a Depression Relief Works project, assisted by a Federal grant of £3000. The famous oval was created from a dry creek bed and the grandstand was officially opened during Lidcombe Gala Week on 10 June 1933. Lidcombe Oval became well known as a cycling venue and then, from 1967-86, as the home ground of the Western Suburbs Magpies Rugby League team.</p> <p>Granville Baby Health Centre opened in Carlton St – later relocated to Diamond Ave.</p> <p>Berala had 35 commercial businesses by 1933 but poultry farming was the biggest industry at this time.</p>
1934	<p>Civic Theatre opened on South Pde, Auburn. The Classical Art Deco styled building seated 2, 271 people. It closed in 1967, was demolished in 1973 and an office building replaced it.</p> <p>Regent Theatre opened at Wentworthville. The last film was shown in 1959. The building still stands in Station St and was refurbished in 1993. It has been used for various purposes over the past 60 years including a hardware store and a medical centre but is currently the Sri Lakshmi Supermarket.</p>

	<p>Auburn West Public School opened.</p> <p>Lidcombe Baptist Church began in a small shop at Kerrs Rd. It later built a church at the corner of Kerrs Rd and Bede St, then in 1956 built a manse in Carroll St.</p> <p>Cumberland Golf Club opened at Greystanes.</p>
1935	<p>Colquhoun Monument erected at 196 Blaxcell St (Colquhoun Park) in memory of revered former Granville Mayor, John Colquhoun (1857-1929), a successful businessman who donated the land that became Colquhoun Park for the children of Granville.</p> <p>Wentworthville Fire Station opened.</p> <p>A.E. Goodwin Ltd, an engineering and locomotive manufacturer founded at Lidcombe. The firm began as the Goodwin Bent Pipe Manufacturing Company in 1927. A.E. Goodwin relocated to St Marys in the late 1950s to expand its operations and then moved to Parramatta Rd, Auburn in the late 1960s before it collapsed in late 1972.</p> <p>Lidcombe RSL Club (Memorial Hall) opened in Taylor St; the Club opened its Bowling Greens at Wyatt Park in 1960 and then a clubhouse in 1964. In 2008 the Club building was acquired by Council and is now used as a community facility.</p>
1936	<p>Granville Memorial Swimming Baths opened on the former Bergan's Woollen Mills site and a residential subdivision known as the Olympic Pool Estate was released around it with streets including Enid Ave, Diamond Ave and Vulcan St.</p> <p>First Granville RSL Club opened at the corner of William & Blaxcell Streets.</p> <p>Lidcombe Bowling Club opened; the first bowling green was formed by Depression Relief Workers at James St and the original clubhouse was an old Army hut until 1953.</p> <p>Tennis courts added to Wyatt Park as a joint project between Lidcombe Council and the Lidcombe District Hardcourt Tennis Association.</p>
1937	<p>1936-37 – Lidcombe Council Chambers and Town Hall were updated by Depression Relief Workers.</p> <p>Engineering firm, Waddingtons (Comeng from 1946) relocated to Clyde/Granville from Camperdown. They were situated north of the railway line. Closed 1989.</p>

	<p>Cyclone Fence & Gate Co. established a plant at Ferndell St, South Granville.</p> <p>Current Merrylands Fire Station building opened to replace a timber structure that had served the area since 1925.</p>
1938	<p>1937-38 – Marist Brothers established Benedict Junior College at Lidcombe. The Marist Brothers College is today at 8 Mills St.</p> <p>Cumberland Country Golf Club opened on 18 June at Greystanes</p>
1939	1939 – Civic Park, Pendle Hill Gazetted.
World War II – 1939 to 1945	
1939-1945	World War II - Clyde Engineering, Waddingtons, Bonds and other local industries were awarded war contracts to produce aircraft parts, artillery, clothing and other items required for the War effort. Cumberland residents enlisted to fight in the War; local sites were requisitioned for use by Allied Forces in the War.
1940	Essantee Switchgear established a factory on Woodville Rd, South Granville to manufacture equipment for streetlighting and electricity transmission. Closed 1970s.
1941	<p>Commonwealth Aircraft Corporation opened a factory on a 20-acre site, that had formerly been railway land fronting Parramatta Rd at Lidcombe, to manufacture aircraft engines. CAC began in Melbourne in 1936. CAC Lidcombe made a major contribution to the War effort. They not only manufactured and overhauled hundreds of aircraft engines for the Australian and US forces but also brought a range of precision engineering skills, metallurgical expertise and production technologies into Australia. The £1,000,000 plant was officially opened on 04 March 1941 and employed 1500 men in three shifts around the clock during the War years. CAC withdrew from its Lidcombe operation in 1958 which was then managed by De Havilland Australia (DHA), later called Hawker De Havilland. In 1976 the Lidcombe aircraft plant was consolidated with another Government aircraft plant at Bankstown.</p> <p>Lingerie manufacturer David Combe Limited opened at 67 Church St, Lidcombe. The factory closed c1990.</p>
1942	Patrician Brothers school (now Delany College) commenced at Grimwood St, Granville and St Margaret Mary's Primary School opened at Merrylands.

	<p>Granville Park resumed by the Australian Government for use as a US Naval Base Hospital. After the War the temporary hospital buildings were then re-used as emergency housing by the NSW Housing Commission to help combat a severe housing shortage in Sydney. Greystanes House and Sherwood Scrubs were also resumed for military use during WWII.</p> <p>c1942 – a US Army Subsistence Depot was set up on a 37-hectare site at Regents Park, bordered by Chisholm and Kirkham Roads and the Sydney Water Supply pipeline. In 1946 the land was transferred to the Royal Australian Air Force to become RAAF No. 2 Supply Store until it closed in 1994. From 1999-2001 the site was used by the Sydney Organising Committee of Olympic Games (SOCOG) as a carpark for buses and coaches during the 2000 Olympic Games. Since then the site has been redeveloped – part of it is now a light industrial estate and the remainder - between Kirkham Rd and Princes St East - has become a medium density housing estate.</p>
1943 – 1950s	<p>1943 – 1950s - NSW Housing Commission constructed housing estates in South Granville, notably around Dellwood St and on Woodville Rd. The Dellwood Shopping Centre comprising 10 shops and 10 flats above opened in 1948 to service the growing housing estate. It was the first planned shopping centre built by the NSW Housing Commission. By 1947 the Commission had built 553 houses in South Granville with another 164 under construction; contracts let for a further 60 and land resumed for 200 more houses. Another major Housing Commission project in Cumberland during the same period was the Westmead Housing Estate – developed as a model housing estate in the late 1940s to showcase the benefits of good planning. It also included a shopping centre and a block of 18 flats (on Hawkesbury Rd), designed by architect Emil Sodersten, in addition to 300 brick houses. The Estate was located between Hawkesbury and Bridge Roads and many of the houses still stand. Other Housing Commission properties were built nearby at South Wentworthville and Merrylands, particularly around ‘Hill Top’ as well as at Auburn West, around Cumberland Rd; Lidcombe around Yarram St and Berala/Regents Park between Kingsland and Kibo Roads.</p>
1944	<p>Airzone Ltd – built an Art Deco style factory on Parramatta Rd, Auburn. Airzone began in 1925 and became one of the biggest radio manufacturers in Australia. The building is now occupied by furniture retailer, Max Sparrow by Coco Republic.</p> <p>Granville TAFE College – South Western Sydney Institute – built in William St. The College was designed by the NSW Government Architect, Cobden Parkes.</p> <p>Wentworthville Baby Health Centre opened in Friend Park. Now shared with the Friend Park Children’s Centre the building was renovated from 2019-20 to increase its capacity from 16 to 40 childcare places.</p>

1945	<p>29 January - Merrylands Train Derailment. Thirteen people were injured and four passenger carriages destroyed in the accident.</p> <p>Hume Steel Ltd (a subsidiary of Hume Pipe Co. Australia Ltd) established a plant at Park Rd, Regents Park</p> <p>Catholic Church acquired the Sherwood Scrubs Estate for the Marist Sisters who subsequently moved to Merrylands West from Woolwich.</p>
Post-War Period – 1946 to 1979	
1946	<p>First Auburn RSL Club building erected at Northumberland Rd, North Auburn. It was extended and remodelled several times during the 1950s and the present building opened in 1963. The Club closed in 2015.</p> <p>Auburn Park was upgraded and officially re-opened by the Governor-General of Australia, HRH The Duke of Gloucester who also opened the Auburn Bowling Club on the same day (26 October). The Auburn War Memorial was moved from Railway Park to Auburn Park as part of the upgrade where it became the centrepiece with a 'Memory Avenue' of gravel paths lined with native trees approaching it.</p>
1947	<p>Carnarvon Golf Course relocated from Silverwater to the present site at Berala which had formerly been used as the dairy for Rookwood Asylum/Lidcombe Hospital.</p> <p>Hoyts Castle cinema opened in South St, Granville. Closed 1959.</p> <p>Merrylands Baby Health Centre opened in Miller St. It closed in 1994. The building is now part of the Merrylands RSL complex and was refurbished in 2016/17.</p>
1947-1956	<p>Auburn Shopping Centre Replanning Project carried out to improve traffic flow through Auburn CBD and tie in with a railway project to quadruple the local railway lines, relocate the bridge and build a new station at Auburn. Civic Rd was created as part of the project to provide a new road link from Queen St through to Kerr Pde and across to Station Rd. Part of South Pde was renamed Kerr Pde as a result, after Mayor, Alderman Alex Kerr who first recommended the Replanning Scheme to Council.</p>
1948	<p>Hoyts Crest Cinema opened at corner of Blaxcell and Redfern Streets in South Granville. Closed 1963. It is now The Blouza function centre.</p>

	<p>Auburn-Lidcombe Rotary Club chartered on 23 October.</p> <p>First Ukrainian migrants arrive in Australia in the wake of WWII. A significant number of Ukrainians settle in the Lidcombe and Granville areas from the late 1940s-early 1950s where they established cultural facilities including two churches, two schools and the Ukrainian Youth Centre at John St, Lidcombe where the former Congregationalist Church Hall was situated.</p> <p>A tent camp was set up at the base of the Potts Hill reservoir to temporarily house European migrants, including Poles, Czech, Ukrainians and Lithuanians who had been contracted to work on projects for the Metropolitan Water Board including a pipeline extension project to the city.</p>
1949	<p>1948-9 – Phillips Park developed at North Lidcombe. The Park was named after former Lidcombe Mayor, Charles Phillips but was not officially gazetted until 1959. Guilfoyle Park at Regents Park was created around the same period and named after former Lidcombe Mayor, Michael Guilfoyle. Both were long-serving Aldermen on Lidcombe Council who retired from Auburn Municipal Council at the end of 1950. At the same time Lidcombe Park was renamed Coleman Park after former Lidcombe Alderman, John Joseph Coleman. Guilfoyle and Coleman Parks were not officially gazetted as public reserves until 1977.</p> <p>Local Government amalgamations occurred in NSW - Lidcombe was amalgamated with Auburn to become Auburn Municipal Council while Granville was incorporated into Parramatta City Council.</p> <p>White goods manufacturer, Malleys built a new plant at Auburn on St Hilliers Rd. Malley's Ltd was taken over by taken over by Simpson Pope Holdings Limited on July 25th, 1979 and subsequently closed.</p> <p>Bowling Clubs were formed at Merrylands and Wentworthville.</p>
Late 1940s-1950s	<p>War Service Home projects commenced to house returned servicemen at the conclusion of WWII. One estate was constructed at Guildford West in the vicinity of Fowler and Guildford Roads and another at Pendle Hill in Rose and Smith Streets.</p>
1950s	<p>Post-war residential expansion began with the creation of 16 square miles of new roads in Auburn Municipality alone. Industrial expansion also took off which saw a large number of companies move into the Auburn district either from inner-city sites they had outgrown or from overseas. By 1953 there were 575 factories in the Auburn district each employing from 10 to 1,000 staff. New factories continued to be built over the next 20 years for a wide range of industries from printing inks, tyres and chemicals to shoes, prefabricated houses and pressure sensitive adhesive tapes. Other manufacturers set up operations in Granville/</p>

	<p>South Granville during the Post-war years including cigarette manufacturer, Rothmans; veterinary, chemical and pharmaceutical manufacturer, Merck, Sharpe & Dohme; furniture makers Rosenblum and Framac Industries; and aluminium manufacturer Alcan.</p> <p>Roads and drainage dominated Council expenditure as sealed roads gradually replaced dirt roads and a major programme of drainage works commenced to end the periodic flooding that had cut off local roads after heavy rains.</p> <p>The County of Cumberland Planning Scheme (Gazetted in 1951) set new rules on land use for Councils across Sydney to guide Post-war development in the suburbs. The town planning document laid out plans for future expressways, satellite town centres, parks and a ring of 'green belt' around Sydney's outer suburbs. A section of what is now Cumberland Council lay within the 'green belt' which effectively prohibited any development of that land. However, population growth pressures necessitated the release of the 'green belt' lands across Sydney for housing and by 1965 the plan was effectively shelved.</p>
1950	<p>Egg Marketing Board relocated from the inner city to new premises built on a 22-acre site at Nyrang St, Lidcombe. By the 1950s egg production was the fourth largest industry in Australia. The site contained an administration centre, egg processing and storage facility and could handle 55 million eggs a year. It closed in 1990 following deregulation of the egg industry. 27 Nyrang St – now occupied by Classic Ceramics.</p> <p>Heavy vehicle manufacturer Hastings Deering Pty Ltd erected a large factory on an eight-acre site along Parramatta Rd, at Lidcombe, between John St and Nyrang St, to build trucks and other heavy vehicles. They also acted as a service & distribution centre for Ford cars and trucks. Auburn Council extended Nyrang St to Parramatta Rd to facilitate the development. Site now occupied by the Lidcombe Centre. Hastings St at rear recalls the company's presence.</p> <p>Acrow Pty Ltd, a subsidiary of London based Acrow (Engineering) Ltd established operations in Australia at 211 John St, Lidcombe in a takeover of local firm, Alexander Clark Pty Ltd. The Art Deco style industrial building is no longer occupied by the company. Acrow was later absorbed by Boral but since 2010 has been called Acrow Formwork & Scaffolding Pty Ltd.</p> <p>Granville Bowling & Recreation Club opened at Enid Ave (behind the pool).</p> <p>St Enda's Catholic Primary opened at Toongabbie – the school moved a few streets away to its own site at Targo Rd, Girraween in 1956 and the name changed to St Anthony's Primary, Girraween.</p>

1951	<p>Duck River Open Space project began to remediate land along Duck River into parks, playing fields and general recreation. The project is carried out in stages until the late 1970's.</p>
1952	<p>Berala Train Crash – two passenger trains collided in thick fog on 07 May 1952 resulting in 10 deaths and 84 people were injured. In May 2002 a Memorial Garden was opened beside Berala Railway Station to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the crash.</p> <p>Auburn Mobile Nursing Service began.</p> <p>Hilltop Rd Public School opened as Wentworthville South Infants School.</p> <p>Lidcombe Baby Health Centre opened in Bridge St.</p>
1953	<p>1952-3 – Regents Park Bowling & Recreation Club opened.</p> <p>1952-3 – Scout Jamboree held at Greystanes. More than 11,000 scouts plus accompanying adults from around the world attended.</p> <p>Lidcombe Court of Petty Sessions opened in Mary St. In 1985 it became Lidcombe Local Court following the abolition of Courts of Petty Sessions in NSW. It was closed on 13 April 1992 and all records transferred to Burwood Local Court.</p> <p>A CSIRO Sheep Biology Research Station was established at Prospect (now Pemulwuy) to support the wool industry. The research facility was renamed the Ian Clunies Ross Animal Research Laboratory following the CSIRO Chairman's sudden death in 1959. The facility closed in 2002 and the land was sold in 2003 to be developed as the future suburb of Pemulwuy. Ian Clunies Ross St which runs off the Great Western Hwy was the original entry to the CSIRO Station.</p> <p>International Harvester Company of Australia Pty Ltd – manufacturer of tractors and other farm equipment - opened a new plant at 23-29 Parramatta Rd, Lidcombe. It closed in 1997 and the site was redeveloped into a Bunnings Warehouse outlet.</p> <p>Guildford Baby Health Centre opened, beside Warnock Park, as the Truby King Baby Health Clinic.</p>
1954	<p>1953-4 – Scout Memorial Park developed at Granville.</p>

	<p>Dairy Farmers Co-operative Milk Company Ltd established a new milk treatment and bottling plant on a seven-acre site at the corner of Pippita St and Birnie Ave, Lidcombe. The site is now owned by multinational dairy manufacturer, Parmalat.</p> <p>Commonwealth Bank branches opened at Wentworthville, Lidcombe and then Pendle Hill in 1956.</p> <p>14 May - Centenary Park, Merrylands, Gazetted. On 22 March 1996 it was renamed the Ted Burge Sportsground in honour of long serving patron and local resident, Ted Burge.</p> <p>Granville East Public School opened (Nobbs St and The Trongate).</p>
1954-6	<p>New parks and green space for Auburn & Lidcombe – Norman Park, Kibo Reserve, Progress Park, Grandin Park, Jack & Jill Playground on Tilba St and extension of Phillips Park and Mona Park. Rotary Club of Auburn-Lidcombe marked its Golden Jubilee by planting trees along the western side of Park Rd from South Pde to Regents Park.</p>
1955	<p>New Auburn Hotel opened to replace the previous building that was demolished to make way for Civic Rd.</p> <p>Pendle Hill Public School opened.</p> <p>St. Aphanasius Ukrainian Autocephalic Orthodox Church built in William Street, Granville at the corner of Enid Ave.</p>
1956	<p>Apex Club of Auburn chartered.</p> <p>Guildford Leagues Club opened.</p> <p>Toongabbie Hotel opened at The Portico, Toongabbie.</p> <p>Guildford West Public School opened.</p> <p>Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School, Westmead opened.</p>
1957	<p>16 March - Wellington Rd Bridge opened to link Auburn and South Granville</p> <p>Brewing company, Tooheys Ltd opened a £5,000,000 bottling plant at Nyrang St, Lidcombe. The company acquired 16 acres of land (part of the Sydney Meat Preserving Co's land) in 1955 to build a new brewery.</p>

	<p>Prospect County Council formed to manage the electricity supply needs of councils in western Sydney who had previously managed it on a local level. The first office was at Miller St, Merrylands but the County Council later moved to Parramatta. In 1989 electricity supply was moved to State Government level and then privatised in the mid-1990s.</p> <p>Auburn Lions Club chartered.</p>
1958	<p>Foundation stone for St Andreas (St Andrews) Ukrainian War Memorial Church laid at Church St, Lidcombe. The Church was built and blessed in 1961.</p> <p>First Merrylands RSL Club building opens in Military Rd, Merrylands. The Sub-branch formed in 1921 and acquired the land for the future club in 1936. Merrylands RSL Club has expanded to cover almost the entire block between Merrylands Rd and Newman St during the intervening years. In 2012 the Club Merrylands had more than 36,000 members.</p> <p>St Simon Stock Catholic Primary School (now Our Lady Queen of Peace), opened at Greystanes.</p> <p>Rotary Club of Holroyd chartered.</p> <p>Pendle Hill Baby Health Centre opened.</p>
1959	<p>c1958-9 – First industrial estate opened at Yennora attracting firms such as Comalco Pty Ltd, Moulded Products Pty Ltd, Stanton Pipes of Australia and Warrell Engineering to the area. This prompted Holroyd Council to zone more industrial areas on former rural lands at Yennora, Smithfield, Girraween, Woodpark and West Granville.</p> <p>Auburn Municipal Golf Course opened.</p> <p>Auburn Swimming Centre (now the Ruth Everuss Aquatic Centre) opened at Wyatt Park. Ruth Everuss was an Olympic swimmer and local resident who won a Silver medal at the 1960 Rome Olympics.</p> <p>Merrylands High School opened to students (official opening was 12 August 1960).</p>
1960s	<p>Industrial expansion continued throughout the Council area.</p> <p>Provision of carparks in the shopping districts of Cumberland became an increasingly important issue as the decade progressed due to the growing number of cars in the area. Auburn Council opened carparks at Regents Park, Berala and</p>

	<p>Lidcombe and provided angle parking at Auburn while Wentworthville's new shopping square featured off-street parking.</p>
1960	<p>First stage of Olympic Dve opened after Main Road 190 was extended from Church St to Boorea St around the edge of Wyatt Park at Lidcombe. The next stage saw the road linked with Silverwater Rd. In 1984 Olympic Dve was extended south to meet Joseph St.</p> <p>Berala Hotel opened in Woodburn Rd, followed by a supermarket and discount store in 1961.</p> <p>Cerdon College Catholic girls high school opened at Sherwood Scrubs in Merrylands West.</p> <p>Tubemakers of Australia Limited established a production plant at Ferndell St, South Granville – expanded in 1978 and 1983 when fencing and fabrication department moved to Smithfield.</p> <p>Merrylands RSL Youth and Recreation Club launched by local RSL Sub-branch to provide a social and sporting outlet for local children and teenagers. Their Clubhouse opened at King Park in 1962.</p>
1961	<p>Patrician Brothers Monastery built at 200 William St, Granville replacing 'Carhullen'. It closed in 1995 but the land is still owned by the Parramatta Diocese of the Catholic Church.</p> <p>Auburn Council took control of the local library service which had been run by volunteers at the School of Arts for nearly 60 years. The Council library service continued to function from the School of Arts building until 1979 when it moved into a new purpose-built library a few doors down from the old building.</p> <p>First issue of The Maltese Herald newspaper published. The Maltese Herald's office was situated at 195 Merrylands Rd, Merrylands for many years. The newspaper closed in 2013 due to declining advertising revenues.</p>
1962	<p>Silverwater Bridge opened, linking the Auburn district to the north side of the Parramatta River.</p> <p>Holroyd Municipal Council Administration Centre opened in Chertsey St, (now Memorial Ave), Merrylands, replacing the Arcadia St Council Chambers.</p> <p>St Paul's Catholic Boys High School (originally St Simon Stock Boys High School) opened at Greystanes.</p>

	<p>Ringrose Public School opened.</p> <p>Wentworthville Leagues Club and Wentworthville RSL Club both opened. The latter is now closed and the building, beside Wentworthville Memorial Pool was badly damaged in a fire in 2006. It was demolished in 2012.</p> <p>Wentworthville Shopping Mall opened with off-street parking for shoppers.</p> <p>Guildford Rotary Club begins.</p> <p>Toongabbie Baby Health Centre opens.</p>
1963	<p>St Anthony of Padua Catholic Church, Toongabbie opened on 3rd February. The new church replaced St Enda's Catholic Church Hall which had served the Toongabbie community since 1929.</p> <p>ANZ Bank opened at Merrylands.</p> <p>Portico Plaza Shopping Centre opened at Toongabbie.</p> <p>Merrylands Police Station opened in Miller St. Now replaced by Holroyd Area Local Command Police Station in Memorial Ave.</p> <p>First Lidcombe Branch Library opened in Wellington Park.</p> <p>Greystanes High School, Sherwood Grange Public School and Merrylands East Public School all opened – the latter initially as an Infants School until 1965</p>
1964	<p>Guildford Library opened.</p> <p>Granville Diggers RSL Sub-branch and Club opened on corner of William St and Memorial Dve. The site was previously known as Brunton's Sports Ground as it had belonged to Brunton's Flour Mills.</p> <p>Coolibah Hotel opened in Merrylands West near the site of the old Merrylands Hotel.</p> <p>Dunrossil Special School opened in the former Holroyd Council building at Arcadia St, Merrylands West.</p> <p>Lions Club's Wentworthville Chapter established.</p>
1965	<p>Auburn Council Administration Centre opened at the corner of Queen and Susan Streets. The building was replaced in 2000 by the Auburn Civic Centre which</p>

	<p>incorporated the Flemington Local Area Command Police Station (officially opened March 2001).</p> <p>Hardie Ferodo Pty Ltd built a plant at Guildford.</p> <p>Girraween Industrial Estate opened.</p> <p>St John's Ambulance Brigade Granville Division headquarters opened in Diamond Ave, Granville.</p> <p>Wentworthville Memorial Swimming Centre opened. The complex is currently being upgraded (2020-21).</p> <p>Holy Family Catholic Church built in The Trongate, Granville.</p> <p>Auburn Soccer Sports Club Ltd opened at Northumberland Rd.</p>
1966	<p>Granville South High School opened.</p> <p>Manildra Group established a starch and gluten plant at Auburn to separate flour into the basic components of carbohydrates (starch) and protein (gluten) for industrial users. In 1985 the plant's operations were consolidated with Manildra's Nowra plant.</p> <p>Meals on Wheels service began at Auburn and Merrylands.</p> <p>Minda Child Remand Home opened at Lidcombe.</p>
1966-68	<p>Girraween Farmer Charles Vincent Kelly sold his land to Holroyd Council for a park. The park was initially called Charles V. Kelly Park but later renamed C.V. Kelly Park.</p> <p>Various sporting amenities and clubs were developed along the Duck River Parklands including Baseballers' Club Arena at Oriole Park, Auburn RSL Bowling Club, the Berala-Carramar Tennis Association Club and Rosnay Golf Club.</p> <p>72 new factories opened in the Auburn area.</p> <p>Advent of home unit building in the Council area with 'three-storey walk-up' style buildings constructed in zoned areas, usually near public transport links.</p>
1967	<p>St Margaret Mary's Catholic Church at Merrylands was officially opened on 18 June by Sydney Archbishop, Cardinal Gilroy.</p>

	<p>Plaque honouring John Thomas (Jack) Lang, former NSW Premier and long-serving local MP was unveiled at 4 Auburn Rd - the site of his old real estate agency, Lang & Dawes. The building is today occupied by a Ray White real estate franchise.</p>
1968	<p>Regents Park Library opened as part of the Regents Park Amenity Centre on Amy St which also included a Baby Health Clinic.</p> <p>Holroyd High School opened (originally named Merrylands West High School).</p> <p>First Turkish migrants settled in Auburn as part of an assisted migrant scheme signed by the Australian and Turkish Governments on 05 October 1967.</p> <p>Merrylands Swimming Centre opened.</p> <p>The old Guildford telephone exchange was replaced by a new two-storey building at the corner of Station St and Guildford Rd. Rapid population growth in the area necessitated the larger more modern building to cope with the rising volume of local communication traffic passing through it.</p> <p>Mombri St/Neil St rail overpass constructed to replace Merrylands Rd level crossing at Merrylands Railway Station which closed the same year.</p>
1969	<p>Auburn-Lidcombe RSL Youth Centre opened at Church St, Lidcombe, between Lidcombe Oval and the Auburn Swimming Centre.</p> <p>Beresford Rd Public School opened.</p>
1970	<p>Comalco opened a plant at Yennora to produce aluminium cans for food processing companies.</p> <p>St Raphael's Slovenian Catholic Church celebrated its first Mass in the former St Stephen's Presbyterian Church on Merrylands Rd at the corner of Warwick Rd.</p> <p>Greystanes Shopping Centre opened, along with the Greystanes Inn.</p> <p>First Senior Citizens housing scheme opened at Euston Rd and Tavistock St, Auburn to provide 55 units in three double-storey blocks.</p> <p>Auburn RSL Bowling Club officially opened.</p>
1971	<p>Sydney Wool Centre opened at Yennora to create a 'one-stop-shop' for the wool industry to replace the old wool stores around inner-Sydney. It was then the largest</p>

	<p>facility of its kind in the world but is now greatly reduced in size due to the decline of the wool industry. Today the Wool Centre is part of the Yennora Distribution Centre.</p> <p>Wentworthville Library opened together with the Wentworthville Community Centre at Lane St.</p> <p>North Lidcombe Post Office opened in John St.</p> <p>Holroyd Musical and Dramatic Society formed.</p>
1972	<p>Seventh National Paraplegic and Quadraplegic Games held at Merrylands with 130 competitors and crowds of up to 3000 coming to the evening events.</p> <p>Stockland Merrylands Mall opened – it has been extended several times since and now covers the entire block bounded by Treves, McFarlane, Pitt and Neil Streets. Graf Place was created as part of most recent extensions in 2012.</p> <p>Several new sporting facilities opened to mark the centenary of Holroyd Council including the Holroyd Sports Ground, Foray St Tennis Complex at Guildford West and Betts Rd Sporting Complex, Greystanes.</p>
1973	<p>Tree planting ceremony held for the Avenue of Remembrance at Auburn Botanic Gardens.</p> <p>Woodville Public Golf Course opened at South Granville.</p> <p>Guildford Pool opened.</p> <p>Merrylands Chapter of Lions Club established - it later became the Holroyd City Lions Club.</p> <p>Chertsey St, Merrylands was renamed Memorial Ave in recognition of the War memorial trees with plaques that line the street to commemorate local men who were killed during World War II. The Victory in the Pacific Memorial Wall and Fountain was later erected in this street outside the Cumberland City Council Chambers. It was dedicated in 2005 to mark the 60th anniversary of the Victory that occurred in World War II.</p> <p>Record year for development applications at Holroyd Council with the suburbs of Greystanes, Merrylands West, Guildford West and South Wentworthville attracting the most growth.</p>

1974	<p>Charity, Dr Barnardo's opened a branch at Auburn in November known as the Roy McCaughey Barnardo Centre. In 1975 HRH Princess Margaret visited the Centre during a tour to Australia and in 1988 Diana, Princess of Wales also visited.</p> <p>Ciba-Geigy Chemical plant opened at Smithfield.</p> <p>Suburb of Woodpark created to solve a geographical boundary issue between Guildford West, Merrylands West and Smithfield. It was named after a former homestead that once stood in the vicinity of Canal Road Park.</p> <p>Widemere Public School opened.</p> <p>Cumberland College of Health Sciences (now the Lidcombe Campus of the University of Sydney) opened on the eastern side of the Lidcombe Hospital site, facing East St.</p>
1975	<p>Granville Library opened in Carlton St. It replaced the first Library which opened in 1959 within the Granville Town Hall. Extensions to the Library were opened in 1993, a community garden in 1997 and further improvements in 2010. It moved in 2020 to the new Granville Centre.</p> <p>Our Lady Queen of Peace Catholic Church built on Old Prospect Rd, Greystanes. The Church and Parish were named after a Maltese patron saint, Maria Bambina, Our Lady of Victories. A replica statue of Maria Bambina from the Maltese Island of Gozo is displayed in the Church and forms the centrepiece of the annual Maltese Festa procession that has been held in Greystanes since 1965. Gozo Rd, Greystanes is named after this island.</p> <p>Auburn Council Works Depot relocated from Boorea St, Lidcombe to Chiswick St, Auburn. Holroyd Council Works Depot was moved to Fairfield Rd, Guildford West from Arcadia St, Merrylands West in 1964.</p> <p>Circa 1975 - NSW Dept of Mines established on the southern section of the Lidcombe Hospital site at corner of Joseph St and Weeroona Rd.</p>
1976	<p>Girraween High School opened.</p> <p>Central Gardens opened in Merrylands West on the former Walker Benson Tile Works site. The Gardens include a wildlife sanctuary, ornamental lakes, an amphitheatre and recreational areas.</p> <p>The first of a wave of Lebanese migrants driven out of their homeland by Civil War (1975-90) arrived in Australia and many settled in Cumberland. By 2016 residents with Lebanese ancestry comprised 13.3% of the LGA's population.</p>

1977	<p>Granville Train Disaster – a morning commuter train travelling from the Blue Mountains to Sydney on 18 January derailed as it passed through Granville Station, hitting a pylon under the Bold St Bridge which caused the concrete bridge to collapse on the train, killing 83 people and injuring a large number of passengers on board. It remains Australia’s worst railway disaster. A memorial wall was subsequently erected in a garden setting at the corner of Railway Pde and Carlton St in 1997 and was refurbished in 2016 in time for the 40th anniversary memorial service in 2017.</p> <p>Auburn Botanic Gardens, featuring the distinctive Japanese Garden, opened.</p> <p>A NSW Government Community Health and Teaching hub opened at Merrylands to provide specialist services including occupational therapy, physio, speech therapy and drug and alcohol counselling.</p> <p>Far East and South Pacific (FESPIC) Games for disabled athletes were co-hosted by Holroyd and Parramatta Councils in November. 430 athletes competed including Wayne Patchett from Guildford who broke world records in discus and shotput at Merrylands Oval during the Games and won three gold medals.</p> <p>Toongabbie Senior Citizens Centre opened. It was renamed the Toongabbie Community Centre in 1999.</p> <p>Sri Mandir Temple built at Auburn – it was the first Hindu Temple in Australia.</p>
1978	<p>Valma Hedges Senior Citizens Centre opened on site of former Lidcombe Town Hall in Church St on 25 November. Valma Hedges was President of the Auburn Senior Citizens Welfare Association and was also married to long-serving Auburn Mayor and Alderman, Stan Hedges.</p> <p>New residential subdivision at Lewis St, Regents Park approved which involved extension of the existing road.</p>
1978-80	<p>Wyatt Park was extended to create the NSW Netball Centre, a Basketball Centre and an Athletics Field plus amenities building. Soccer fields and softball fields are developed at Webbs Ave as part of Duck River Parklands project.</p>
1979	<p>The Auburn Gallipoli Mosque first opened for worship on the 3rd of November 1979 on the current site. The original mosque was a house which had had the internal walls removed to generate an open space. The construction of the present mosque began in 1986, and was officially opened on 28th of November 1999, twenty years after the initial opening. The Gallipoli Mosque is the largest Mosque in Australia and has become an iconic part of the Auburn cityscape.</p>

	<p>Paraquad NSW opened Ferguson Lodge on the grounds of Lidcombe Hospital.</p> <p>Lidcombe Car Park opened in Bridge Rd.</p> <p>Guildford Rd level crossing closed and replaced by Hawksview Rd/Oxford St railway overpass.</p>
	Late 20th Century – 1981 to 1999
1981-3	<p>Roadworks in Lidcombe including Joseph St reconstruction and Bede St deviation projects started. Railway St was extended through the northern edge of Rookwood Cemetery between East and Arthur Streets to improve traffic flows around Lidcombe. Auburn's first traffic roundabout was constructed at the intersection of Cumberland and Chiswick Roads.</p>
1982	<p>NSW Government approved construction of the Multiple Sclerosis Western Region Centre built on 6.5 hectares of land on the northern edge of the Lidcombe Hospital site and Cumberland College of Health Sciences (now Cumberland Campus of the University of Sydney). The facility included a 50-bed nursing home, therapy centre and hostel and opened in 1984.</p> <p>The first stage of the F4 Western Freeway (now the M4 Motorway) to reach Cumberland (from Strathfield to Auburn) was opened on 16 December by NSW Premier Neville Wran. The Mays Hill-Prospect section opened in May 1992. The four-lane motorway which runs from Sydney to the Blue Mountains was widened to six lanes between 1998-2000. Further widening works were carried out in the section between Church St, Parramatta and Concord in 2015 as part of the WestConnex project.</p>
1983	<p>Auburn had the largest Turkish population in the metropolitan area, prompting the appointment in 1982 of a Turkish-speaking librarian as Ethnic Services Librarian at Auburn Library.</p>
1984-88	<p>A section of the Cumberland Highway was developed between Old Windsor Rd at Wentworthville and Warren Rd, Smithfield via Freame St, Emert St, Jersey Rd and Betts Rd. This was intended to bypass Parramatta by replacing the existing Church St/ Woodville Rd route to Liverpool. It involved widening of the existing roads to four and six lanes and connecting them to flow as one arterial road. Some of this work had already been carried out in the 1970s-early 80s but the remaining links were completed in stages with the Freame St railway underpass opened in February 1986, followed by Emert St to the Great Western Hwy in November 1987 and Great Western Hwy to Jersey Rd in 1988. At this point the route was renamed the Cumberland Hwy. Remaining road upgrading from</p>

	Prospect Ck bridge to Merrylands was completed in the mid-1990s and early 2000s.
1988	Maltese Monument unveiled at Civic Park, Pendle Hill as a Bicentennial gift from the Maltese Community <i>“to commemorate the presence, contribution and development of the State of NSW by the Maltese community”</i> . An annual memorial service is now held at the Monument to mark the anniversary of the Maltese uprising, known as <i>“Sette Giugno”</i> , which occurred on 7 th June 1919 against British rule which is now a national holiday in Malta.
1989	Wentworthville train derailment occurred on 27 December. It resulted in the death of one man.
1992	Auburn Council Centenary – a range of events were held during the year to mark the occasion including a Mayoral Ball, historical exhibition and <i>“Back to Auburn”</i> day. Lidcombe Community Centre opened. Lidcombe Library moved into this building which also included a hall and new community health centre to replace the old baby health centre. Both the old library and baby health centre were then demolished.
1993-5	1993-5 – Lidcombe TAFE, now South Western Sydney Institute of TAFE opened on eastern side of former Lidcombe Hospital site facing East St.
1995	Lidcombe Hospital closed. Sydney Murugan Hindu Temple opened on the Great Western Hwy at Mays Hill. It was consecrated in 1999 and also included a Tamil Cultural and Educational Centre.
1996	Part of the old Lidcombe hospital was converted for use as the Media Centre for the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games.
1998	Al-Faisal College Islamic School opened at 149 Auburn Rd, Auburn.
1999	Suburb of Holroyd created from the former Goodlet & Smith site. Medium density housing developments were built in Holroyd Gardens over four stages between 1999 and 2007. A portion of the former brickworks infrastructure was retained in a heritage precinct/park.

	21st Century – 2000 to 2020
2000-2010	<p>Residential development across Cumberland characterised by medium density housing – villas and townhouses, duplexes, dual occupancy and mixed-use developments. Commercial development characterised by shift from heavy industry to light industry with warehouses, distribution centres, factory units and business parks constructed across the area, particularly at Lidcombe and Regents Park. Redevelopment of old industrial sites began eg, Lidcombe Hospital to Botanica, Purcell Engineering to Auburn Central, CSIRO Prospect to Pemulwuy and RAAF Depot Regents Park to commercial and residential developments.</p> <p>Indian and Chinese migration to the area increased and new waves of migrants, including refugees from war-torn North African countries and Afghanistan settled in Cumberland.</p>
2000	<p>Major upgrade to Lidcombe Railway Station completed for Sydney Olympic Games as the station was the rail gateway to the Olympic site.</p> <p>Sydney Olympic Games held in Auburn LGA on redeveloped former industrial land at Homebush Bay that had previously been used for the State Abattoirs (1907-88) and State Brickworks (1911-88).</p>
2001	<p>Lidcombe Post Office relocated to Railway St.</p> <p>Harvey Norman opened at Yillowra St, Auburn between King St and Parramatta Rd – now the company’s flagship store.</p>
2001+	<p>Remaining former Lidcombe Hospital land redeveloped into the Botanica housing estate with 750 dwellings spread over 44 hectares. Heritage buildings were retained and form a seven-hectare precinct around the Village Green. These included various important buildings designed by NSW Government Architects including Walter Liberty Vernon, James Barnet, Cobden Parkes and Ken Woolley.</p>
2004	<p>Suburb of Pemulwuy created on lower slopes of Prospect Hill. This area was previously part of the suburb of Prospect. Pemulwuy was developed over the former CSIRO site and land that had been owned by Boral. The suburb was named after Bidjigal warrior, Pemulwuy and housing developments were built in stages around a lake with parkland, walkways and cycleways.</p>
2005	<p>Auburn Central development opened on former Vale & Sons / Purcell Engineering site on Queen St between Park Rd and Harrow Rd. The project with an estimated cost of \$45 million dollars comprised a mix of residential apartments (452) with</p>

	<p>commercial and retail space housed across a complex of buildings ranging in height from four to 11-storeys, parking and a town square. Queen St was closed between Park and Harrow Roads to facilitate the development.</p> <p>The Warali Wali group of interpretive Indigenous artworks were erected beside Prospect Creek. Four stories are depicted by the artworks that interpret local flora and fauna. Warali Wali means possum in the Darug language and the possum was a traditional totem of the Darug people.</p>
2006	Lidcombe Samoan Church (Uniting Church) built at 54 Martin St, Lidcombe replacing a Post-war brick Church and early 20th Century weatherboard church hall that were originally built by the Methodist Church.
2008	North Pde, Auburn renamed Gelibolu Pde. Gelibolu is the Turkish word for Gallipoli and the Auburn Gallipoli Mosque is situated in this street.
2010-2020	LEP changes permitting the construction of high rise residential towers resulted in a wave of high rise apartment developments in the CBD areas of Merrylands, Auburn, Lidcombe and Wentworthville as well as along the Great Western Hwy. Eight storey height limits along railway lines at Wentworthville and Pendle Hill has resulted in the demolition of houses near the railway lines to be replaced by apartments and 'shop top' housing.
2012	Lingyen Mountain (Buddhist) Temple opened at Vivian Crescent, Berala.
2016	NSW Local Government Amalgamations resulted in the creation of Cumberland Council in May. The new Council comprised the southern portion of Auburn Council, the Woodville Ward of Parramatta Council - Granville (south of the Western Railway Line) - and Holroyd Council excluding most of Mays Hill.
2018	Forensic Medicine and Coroners Court officially opened in December 2018 at 1A Main Ave, Lidcombe.
2020	Granville Centre opened at 1 Memorial Drive on 01 September. The Centre incorporates an art gallery, library, public meeting spaces, creative suite and A/V studios.