

# Bondi Junction



Hough's Windmill

# Business and Pleasure



Tea Gardens Hotel

# Acknowledgement

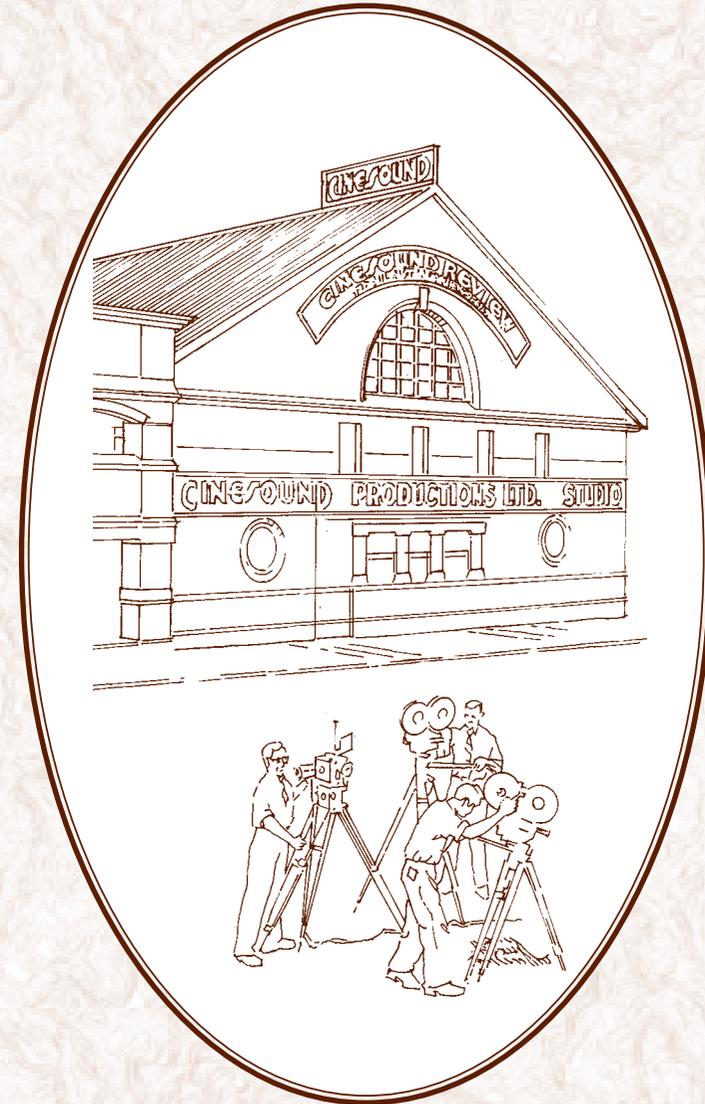
To commemorate the Centenary of Federation the Waverley Centenary of Federation Committee decided to mark items of historic and cultural significance in the municipality and produce walking guides to these places.

In order to make the walk a reality it was necessary to obtain funding. Eastern Suburbs Leagues Club saw this as a unique opportunity to support a project of lasting value to the Waverley community and agreed to sponsor the project.

The Club is strongly identified with Waverley as it has been in Bondi Junction since 1961 and the Easts' football team has been supported by the people of Waverley since 1908 - so it was well placed to undertake such a sponsorship.

The Waverley Historical Society also assisted with the project. Waverley Library has an extensive local history collection which was used for the preparation of the material. Waverley Council staff supervised the project, undertook the research and preparation of the material and installed the signs.

The production of this walk has been the result of an exciting collaboration between Waverley Council and the Eastern Suburbs Leagues Club.



# Centenary of Federation Walk

**BONDI JUNCTION**

# Bondi Junction

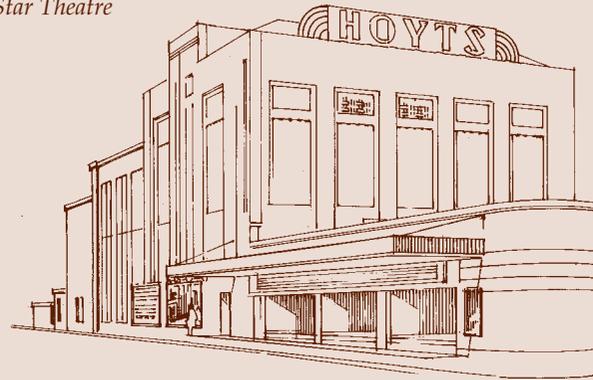
## Centenary of Federation Walk

Prior to European occupation, the Bondi Junction area, and much of what is now Sydney, was home to the Eora Aboriginal group - probably the Cadigal people and possibly also the Biddigal and the Birrabinnagal peoples. Unfortunately, we don't have any material in the Bondi Junction area to document that use.

Bondi Junction, or as it was known Tea Gardens, goes back to the earliest days of the colony. The first road (as distinct from a street) in the colony, the "Road to Botany Bay" came through Bondi Junction so as to avoid the low lying swamps to the west and then on through Randwick, keeping to the high ground, out to La Perouse.

Bondi Junction became a busy commercial centre, transport hub and a place for entertainment. As transport and industry has changed so has the Junction - motor vehicles replaced horse drawn vehicles and the trams, which had first been introduced in Waverley in 1880 these were then replaced with buses by 1960. Syd Einfeld Drive was built in the 1970's and in 1979 the Eastern Suburbs railway opened, both of these major transport links saw the destruction of 19th century streetscapes and the routes and/or names of a number of roads changed. At one time Waverley Street went down to Bondi Beach, now most of that street has been renamed Bondi Road. Former factory sites were developed and Victorian terraces and shops have given way to

Star Theatre



multi story commercial and residential developments.

There was a wide range of industry at Bondi Junction including: the ice works, soap factory, iron foundry and boot factory which were mostly gone by the mid 20th century. Over the years a

great variety of leisure businesses operated here including: open air picture theatres and later indoor picture theatres, dance halls, skating rinks, boxing stadiums, snooker halls and a bowling club. There were also grand residences, mostly on the higher ground on the eastern side of Bondi Junction in streets such as Waverley Street, Paul and Botany streets.

Bondi Junction is always changing and over time many sites have had more than one readily identifiable use. For example, we know that 65 Ebley Street has been a skating rink, film studio, soft drink factory, television production studio and now it is a retail store. Many of the items highlighted on this Bondi Junction Walk were places of business or pleasure.



Waverley House

# Centenary of Federation Walk Bondi Junction

## 1 East Suburbs Leagues Club (Easts)

Eastern Suburbs Leagues Club (Easts) opened their new premises at 93-97 Spring Street in 1968. The Club is the home of the Eastern Suburbs District Rugby League Football Team, which was founded in 1908 at Paddington Town Hall.

## 2 Boot Factory

The Boot Factory was built in 1892 for William Sidaway and Sons. Production of footwear commenced soon after the factory was completed and continued until the factory closed in 1969.

## 3 69 Oxford Street

Late 19th century shops and first floor residences with impressive figurines, pilasters and tiling.

## 4 Hough's Windmill

Mill Hill Road takes its name from the windmill operated by Henry Hough from about 1841 to about 1879 on his ten acre Hope Farm. Centred on what is now 27 Mill Hill Road, Hough's Mill was the last of Sydney's windmills.

## 5 65 Mill Hill Rd

This shop built for MA Bennett, grocer is an example of the "corner stores" dotted through residential areas where shopkeepers would give credit known as "tick". By the 1970s many had already ceased to operate.

## 6 MacNeil Memorial Church

This early 20th century church commemorates Rev. John MacNeil, B.A., the first inducted Presbyterian Minister for Waverley who established the Mill Hill Mission in 1886. Since October 1978 the church has been the John MacNeil Early Childhood Centre.

## 7 Waverley Library Ron Lander Centre

Built by Waverley Council and opened in 1999 it is one of the largest municipal libraries in Australia.

## 8 Clementson Park

Named for a former NSW parliamentarian, Bill Clementson, this park was opened in 1998. A community garden has since been developed on the southern side.

## 9 65 Ebley Street

This has been a roller skating rink, film studio from the days of the silent films until the late 1940s, soft drink factory, TV production studio and a retail store.

## 10 Toll Gate

The first toll-gate in Waverley was erected in 1856 at Allen's Corner, near the present day Grand Hotel. In 1869 the toll-gate was moved to Oxford Street near what is now Mill Hill Road. In 1877 the NSW government abolished toll-gates.

## 11 Local Branches - Sculpture

A gift in 2000 of the late Baron Edson, a local businessman.

## 12 Hoyts Star Picture Theatre

The Star Picture Theatre started life in 1910 as an open-air silent movie theatre on the corner of Bronte Road and Brisbane Street. In 1927 Olympic Pictures acquired the site and in 1928 they opened the largest, most modern theatre of its day with seating for 2,300. It was demolished in 1981.

## 13 Brisbane Street

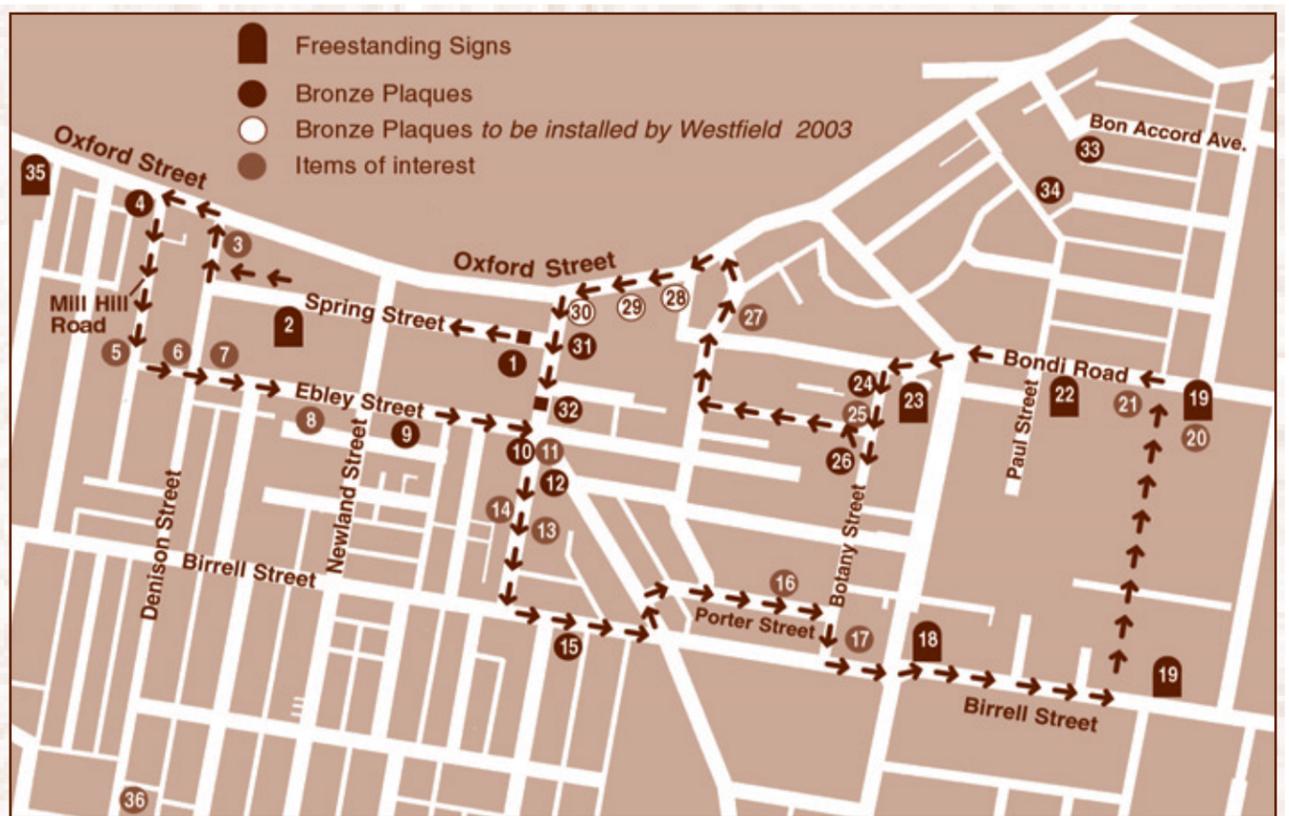
This avenue of Hill's fig trees are 60-70 years old.

## 14 Salvation Army Citadel

Built in 1925 in Free Classical Style this building is still owned by the Salvation Army and now used for secular purposes.

## 15 Pearces' Land

In 1849 Simeon and James Pearce purchased 4½ acres between Bourke, Blenheim and Birrell streets. Many of the 1850s stone houses in this area are similar to those built by the Pearces in Randwick's Struggletown. Peter Dodds McCormick who wrote 'Advance Australia Fair' died at 87 Birrell Street in 1916.



## 16 14-22 Porter Street

Late Victorian Terrace. Nearby was once Allen's Soapworks.

## 17 Waverley RTRS (Radio Transmission Repeater Station)

Used for microwave radio transmission for Telstra network; mobile phone transmission for Telstra and free to air television transmission for all TV stations.

## 18 St Mary's Anglican Church.

This church, designed by Edmund Blacket, was built in 1863/4. Later additions to the church included the extension of the church by 17 feet and the addition of an organ chamber in 1873. The organ, which remains in use today, was installed in 1889.

## 19 Waverley Park

Waverley Park was purchased by the State Government in 1879 for £7,500, following representations by Waverley Council. The land was known as Flagstaff Farm and contained several Chinese market gardens. Waverley Park was dedicated in 1880.

## 20 Cricket Memorial

This classical structure was built to commemorate Charles Gregory in 1911. The names of three young men killed in a car accident in 1965 were added later.

## 21 War Memorial

When the subscription opened in 1917 for the erection of this memorial to those who died in World War I Charles Wood donated (1400, the total cost of the memorial. Each Anzac Day and Remembrance Day services are held here for ex service men and women.

## 22 Council Chambers

The council chambers acquired its post war brutalist appearance when extensive alterations and additions were made in 1975-77 to the 1911 Federation Free Classical style building. A third floor was added in the 1980s.

## 23 Waverley House

This sign cannot be located on the actual site of the house and has been put in Barnett Levey Place (1988) Built by Barnett Levey in 1827 Waverley House was named after Sir Walter Scott's Waverley novels. The house was variously a private residence, orphanage and school. It was demolished in 1904.

## 24 Mayflower Chapel

This Congregational Church became known as the Mayflower Chapel when the Mayflower aged care units opened in 1965. The chapel is built in Victorian gothic style in light sandstock brick and stone with a belfry and spire.

## 25 Gladsmuir

Gladsmuir on the corner of Llandaff Street, a grand Victorian Villa with its square tower was built by John H Newman. It is now a health department building. Newman was instrumental in the construction of the nearby Congregational Church.

## 26 Llandaff House

Llandaff (later Craighsnest) built in 1876 was a large house, surrounded by extensive gardens, stables and a tennis court. It was demolished in the mid 1970s. The stone gate posts are all that remain.

## 27 Eora Park

Named after the local Aboriginal people the park was created to provide green space in a busy urban centre when the surrounding development took place.

## 28 Coronet Theatre

Opened in 1921 on the corner of Waverley and Oxford streets, Olympic No 1 was among a chain of four theatres established by William J Howe. Hoyts acquired the theatre in 1930 and renamed it the Coronet. Screenings ceased in 1968.

## 29 Grace Bros & Waverley Bowling Club

In 1933 Grace Bros opened a branch store in the Coronation Hall at Bondi Junction. Built in 1911 the Hall had been a skating rink, boxing stadium and theatre for vaudeville shows.

## 30 Pattinson's Corner

For generations Pattinson's Corner was a Bondi Junction landmark and meeting place. It takes its name from Pattinson & Co, later Washington H. Soul Pattinson who operated the nearby chemist shop from 1903.

## 31 Tea Gardens Hotel

In 1854 Alexander Gray was granted a licence for the Waverley Tea Gardens Hotel which was to be surrounded by gardens, summer houses and a quoits pitch. It was a popular weekend spot. The first hotel was a single story building.

## 32 Bondi Junction Waverley RSL

The Bondi Junction Waverley RSL was formed in 1933. The Club purchased Walter Stone's premises in 1954 and the present Club was opened in 1968. Walter Stone, carrier and furniture seller began by selling produce and fuel here in about 1888.

## 33 Central Synagogue

This was the first Jewish Congregation in the Eastern Suburbs and is the largest in Australia. This synagogue, dedicated in 1998 replaces an earlier one destroyed by fire.

## 34 Ben Eden

In 1863 James Campbell built Ben Eden, a two storey gothic stone villa. In 1927 it became a Marist Brothers school and monastery. In 1993 the site was redeveloped and the refurbished villa retained as two strata residences.

## 35 Waverley Bus Depot

This is the site of the former Tram Depot opened on September 17, 1902. In 1959 the Tram Depot was closed and converted to a bus depot. Few buildings remain of the original depot.

## 36 O'Sullivan's Garage

This building was built as stables in 1920 for Harry Lynch's horses. Briefly it was the depot for Stringer's Bus Service. Since 1926 it has been O'Sullivan's Garage, first run by Eugene and Ellen O'Sullivan and now run by their son Phil.