

Wahroonga Conservation Area - C1 (KLEP 2015)

Wahroonga Heritage Conservation Area is of heritage significance for its distinctive residential streetscapes which evidence the transformation of early subdivisions of the 1890s into the later rectilinear grid lot street and lot pattern of later subdivisions including the Wahroonga Heights Estate. The area contains a significant collection of grand residences from the Federation and Inter-war periods, built following the opening of the North Shore railway line in 1890, many of these are the residences of prominent families of this period, and often designed by prominent architects, for example the 1894 Ewan House (formerly Innisfail) designed by architect Herbert Wardell for John Thomas Toohey, and eleven houses designed by the architect Howard Joseland. It also contains mid to late twentieth century development that contributes positively to the significance of the conservation area. The western end of Burns Road and western side of Coonanbarra Road are representative streetscapes of intact more modest Federation period houses.

The through-block pathways and formal avenues of street trees within the area (in Burns Road, Water Street and Coonanbarra Road) along with the formal landscaping of Wahroonga Park, and its distinctive John Sulman-designed shops in Coonanbarra Road facing the Park, are a tribute to the work of the Wahroonga Progress Association in the early 20th century (which included Sulman as a member), and have resulted in a high-quality and distinctive residential landscape.

