

North Granville Community Facilities Masterplan

Project Newsletter

APRIL 2020



City of Parramatta archive photo of old Granville Landfill

The history of F.S. Garside Park

Like many parks in the Parramatta Local Government Area, historic records suggested that F.S. Garside Park may have operated as a landfill site (rubbish tip). It is understood that in the early 1930's it was converted for use as a park by placing a deep compacted soil layer over the landfill and planting a grass layer over the capped landfill site.

Records show the area later became known as 'Macarthur Park' in the 1940's. The park was renamed F.S. Garside Park in the late 1970s.

Soil and environmental investigations

To inform the development of the draft North Granville Community Facilities Masterplan, in May 2019 the City of Parramatta appointed a licensed specialist contractor to undertake environmental investigations in sections of F.S. Garside Park, the dog park and the natural reserve adjacent to Duck Creek.

The investigations identified waste materials typical of rubbish tips that had operated in the early twentieth century. Test results indicated that some sections of the park contain materials (currently buried beneath the soil) that may pose a risk to public health and safety if disturbed.

Many of these items can breakdown into materials, which we now know can pose a risk to human health if they become airborne and are inhaled, ingested (eaten) or come into frequent contact with skin (such as regular handling of soil with bare hands).

The investigations identified broken ceramics, bricks and construction materials including products containing lead, (possibly from lead-based paints), fibro products (containing asbestos), glass bottles and ash.

These materials are consistent with items that would normally be found at rubbish tips operating from the 1920's. The presence of copper and zinc was also identified in the soil. These metals are consistent with materials widely used in homes in the early twentieth century.

As a safety measure, these areas are fenced and will remain closed to the public until remediation works and construction are completed.



Broken glass and ceramics found during May 2019 soil investigations.



More soil and environmental investigations planned

Council has an obligation to remediate (clean up) F.S. Garside Park regardless of any work to deliver a masterplan.

A Remediation Action Plan (RAP) is required to limit public exposure to potential contaminants before any construction can progress. Developing a remediation plan that complements Stage 1 of the North Granville Community Facilities Masterplan will ensure that remediation is based on the future needs of the park.

Further investigations are planned to develop a remediation plan, inform the park design/construction, safe work and public safety practices.

For more information visit: oursay.org/cityofparramatta/northgranville

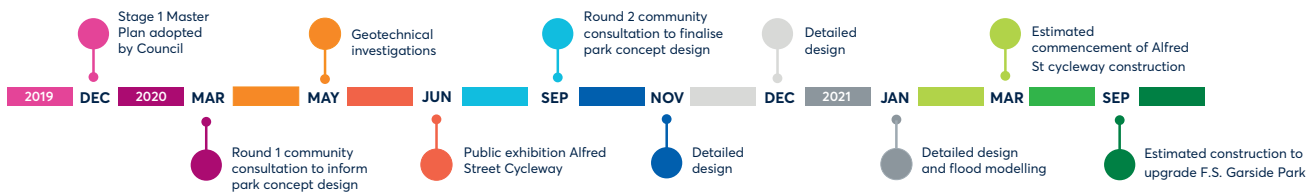


Marmite jar found during May 2019 soil investigations.



Tooths branded bottle found during May 2019 soil investigations.

Project timeline



*Project timelines are indicative and maybe subject to change following geotechnical investigations.



Looking for more information?

Each month we will be publishing all our project newsletters to oursay.org/cityofparramatta/northgranville

On our project page, you will find the most up to date project information including the Masterplan report, Engagement Report, Project newsletters and Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs).

Alternatively, you can contact the project team
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