

## 'Languages are the voices of our land'\*

In Australia there were over 500 different Aboriginal Language groups. The following list of words (and all Aboriginal Words on this brochure) are from the language spoken in the Sydney area at the time of the First Fleets arrival.\*\*

damun = Port Jackson Fig

djanaba = laughter

duruga = falling star

garadi = glossy black cockatoo

garungarung = pretty

guribuní = no ears

(said to a person not answering a call)

guwíyan = fire

man = ghost

mung = ant

murama = yes

murungal = thunder

nanga maí = dream

wawura = rascal

\*Janama (Robert Mills), Chair, Federation of Aboriginal & TSI Languages - \*\*Thieberger, N., & McGregor, W. (eds.), Macquarie Aboriginal Words, 1994.

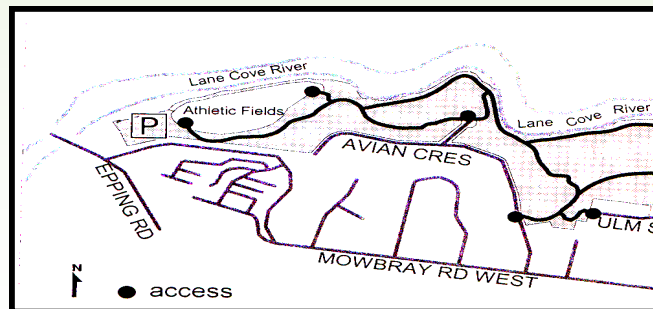
## Transport

**Public:** Catch bus 534 from Chatswood Station to the corner of Epping Road and Mowbray Road West. A path goes under Epping Road to Mowbray Road West where you can enter the Chatswood War Memorial Athletic Field (2 min walk from bus stop). **Private:** There is a car park at the Chatswood War Memorial Athletic Field on Mowbray Road West.

## Walk Details

**Total Length:** 1.2km, **Walking Time:** 30 minutes, **Grade:** Medium, **Surface:** Steep steps, sturdy shoes required.

Contact the Willoughby City Council Aboriginal Heritage Manager David Watts on 97771000. Willoughby City Council is an area abundant with local Aboriginal history with over 100 sites located within the council area. Other areas you may wish to explore include the North Arm Walking Track and Harold Reid Foreshore Track.



# GARADI TRACK

'Black Cockatoo Track'  
Mowbray Park



You are about to embark on a reflective journey exploring the cultural remains and mysteries of the Aboriginal people once living in Mowbray Park. The original occupants of this region were the Camaraigal Clan of the Guringai Tribe. The sites you will discover tell their story even though the people themselves have been displaced from this land.

### (A) Badangigu ('Rock Oyster')

A midden is a place where remains from eating countless shellfish meals have accumulated along with bones, artifacts and tools.



### (C) Ganing ('Cave')

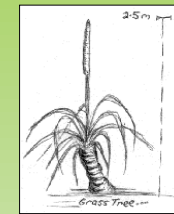
Near the crackle of the fire, smell the smoky fish cooking and listen to the voices of the elders passing on stories of their land and people to the younger generations.

### (D) Barani-Barrabuga ('Yesterday-Tomorrow')

Elevated on this sandstone platform you are able to see a jungle of buildings rising from the horizon. Imagine this view in 1787.

### Mudjil Damara ('red hand')

The art form of stenciling is created by mixing ochre in the mouth with water and spit, then spraying it over the hand or other objects such as woomeras or boomerangs



### Gulgadya ('Grass Tree')

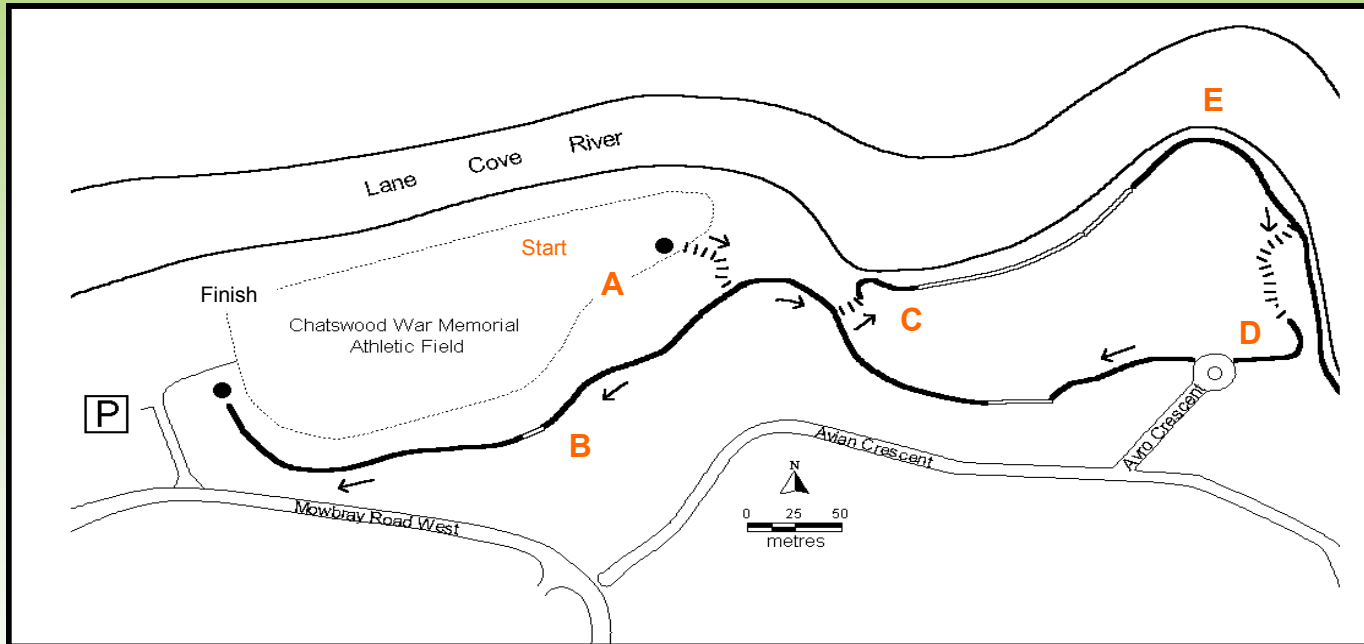
Since time began Aboriginal people have developed an intimate association with plants.

The *Xanthorrhoea* (Grass Tree) produces a resin that would out-stick any modern day super glue! It was used extensively in the production of tools.

**Warrigal Spinach** was not only extensively utilised by the Aboriginals, Captain Cook took advantage of it to keep his crew free from scurvy.



**Swamp She Oak** (*Casuarina*) women taught children that inside this tree's cone lived a protective spirit. Lost children sought *Casuarina* groves for safety, women sought lost children in the *Casuarina* groves.



### (B) Mugu ('Stone Hatchet')

Axe grinding grooves exist in this area. To sharpen the axe water is put onto the sandstone and then the axe head (hard volcanic stone) is rubbed on the wet rock.

(E) Nuwi ('Canoe') Amazingly despite canoes being constructed by bark the Aboriginal people still had fire for warmth and cooking on their boats simply by using a layer of sand/clay and using Banksia cones as coal.

