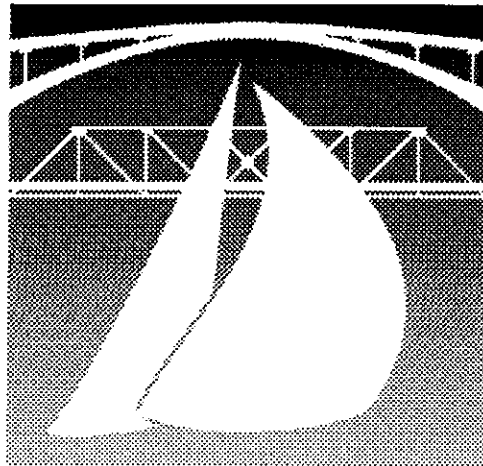


DRUMMOYNE
C O U N C I L



PLAN OF MANAGEMENT FOR TIMBRELL PARK

**Priority work schedule is attached at the back of the
Plan of Management**

**Adopted by Council
September 1994**

PLAN OF MANAGEMENT TIMBRELL PARK

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PLAN OF MANAGEMENT FOR TIMBRELL PARK

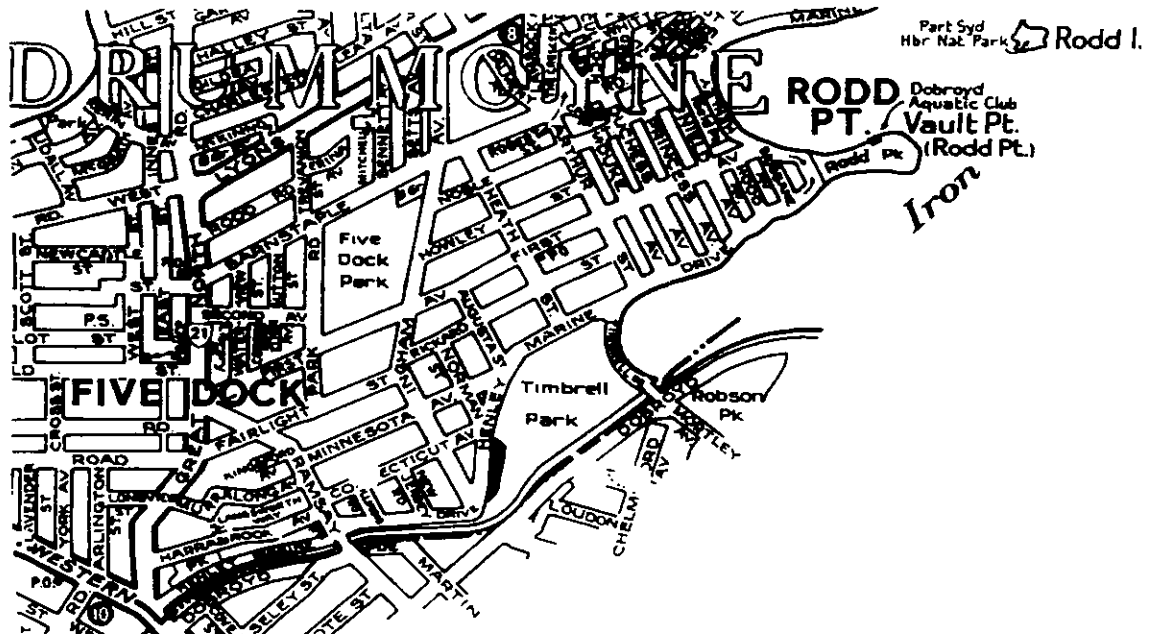
1. INTRODUCTION:

1.1 Background

Timbrell Park was named in 1942 after a former alderman of Drummoyne Council. Dredging and reclamation of the area where the park is now situated was still taking place in the 1930s. Its potential as a sports venue was recognised about this time. History records that in 1938 the Hon. Secretary of the Balmain and District Cricket Association made a request to Council to "provide a temporary wicket until such time as the filling of the swamp area is completed". The request was agreed to and two wickets were provided for the 1938/39 season. In July 1939 the NSW Women's Amateur Sports Council made application to Council for use of the reclaimed area which it regarded as "ideal for women's sport...". Other sporting codes such as baseball and hockey were also played on the park during the 1930s and 1940s.

Over the years Timbrell Park has been the venue for a range of sporting and recreational activities such as soccer, athletics, rugby, dog trials, rod casting tournaments, school sport and touch football. The expanse of the park also make it ideal for kite flying, jogging, and other non structured leisure activities.

1.2 Park location



1.3 Description of the park

Timbrell Park is bordered by Henley Marine Drive on the north and west, Timbrell Drive on the east, with Dobroyd Canal (Iron Creek) marking the southern boundary.

The majority of the park - 9.712 ha. - is Crown Land, having been reserved for public recreation (Reserve no. 71318) on the 22nd September, 1944 with Council appointed Trustee under Section 344 of the Local Government Act, 1919.

A small part of the park is owned by Council and reserved for "Public Garden and Recreation Space" (Section 340A of the 1919 Local Government Act). The area of this portion is 1.293 ha. Refer shaded part of Timbrell Park on map, section 1.2.

The total area of Timbrell Park, including Crown land and Council land, is 10.46 ha.

Timbrell Park is the largest park in the Drummoyne municipality and occupies a prominent position adjacent to Iron Cove. Its primary focus at present is for structured sports - cricket, baseball, soccer and touch football. This will not change. However, given the size of the park, its waterfront location and access in relation to the rest of the municipality, the park has enormous potential for more diversified use, particularly non structured leisure activities associated with cycle paths, picnic and play facilities.

In the last 10 years there has been a move towards an open space classification system which is based on "the experience users gain from a visit to an area rather than what facilities are present". In Council's draft Open Space Plan the "setting approach" has been used to classify all areas of open space in the municipality. On this basis Timbrell Park has been classified as a district facility, where users will normally not drive more than 15-30 minutes.

1.4 Community land

From July 1st, 1994 the new Local Government Act requires all land which is classified as community land to be the subject of a plan of management. In relation to Timbrell Park, this means the small portion of land zoned for "Public Garden and Recreation Space" (refer map section 1.2) is the only part of the park requiring a plan of management. At present, Crown land is exempt. However, as the majority of the park is Crown land and, along with the parcel of Council land, is to undergo significant development over the next five to ten years, it is deemed appropriate that a plan of management be prepared for the whole of Timbrell Park.

¹Outdoor Recreation & Open Space, Planning Guidelines for Local Government. Department of Planning 1992.

1.5 Aim of plan of management.

As stated above, the aim of the plan of management is to comply with the Act in relation to Council owned or community land, but the intention also is to set clear objectives for development of the whole of Timbrell Park, incorporating action priorities and performance measures for tasks to be undertaken.

1.6. Open space goal and objectives.

The plan of management for Timbrell Park is intended to conform with the broad goal set out in Council's Open Space Planning Principles, (report formerly titled 'Draft Open Space Plan') which is " To provide a wide range of quality open space recreation and leisure experiences in order to meet the needs of a diverse community".

The draft open space objectives relevant to the plan of management for Timbrell Park are:

- * To encourage tree planting in all open space areas.
- * To provide a range of recreational opportunities which meet the interests and needs of both structured and non structured sporting and leisure pursuits.
- * To provide challenging and safe play environments which meet the needs of specific age groups, particularly in areas where there are high numbers of children.
- * To implement effective and efficient management practices
- * To allow for accessible open space sites wherever possible.
- * To facilitate community input into the development of the park wherever possible.
- * To provide justification for section 94 contributions (ie. contributions from developers towards the embellishment of open space)
- * To plan for progressive improvements to the recreational amenity of the park as funds become available.

2. MANAGEMENT

2.1 Community Consultation

Community consultation was essential prior to the preparation of a concept plan and the plan of management for Timbrell Park.

A variety of approaches were used to elicit the opinions of residents and park users. On-site interviews were conducted with park users (48 in total) in different parts of the park at various times during the day and week, over a nine day period in October 1993. The survey sought information on peoples' perceptions of the positive and negative aspects of the park and ways by which the park could be improved.

Concurrent with this survey, 33 "snap shot" observations were made at various times during the day over the course of a full week to get a picture of park usage.

Also, residents within approximately 300m of the park were "letterboxed" and invited to comment on how the park might be developed to make it more appealing to the local community. Subsequently, eight written responses, one with 30 signatures, and five phone calls were received. It was clear that residents welcomed the opportunity to have a say in the future development of the park.

Consultations carried out with playgroups, the Drummoyne Access Committee, and senior citizen's organisations during the course of 1993-94 also proved valuable in providing recreation demand information, which in turn was used in preparing the concept plan for the park.

In September 1992, a parks survey was undertaken of 142 households throughout the municipality to gauge residents usage of the parks, positive and negative features, and matters warranting improvement. The survey findings were used as part of the open space planning process and were thus relevant to work being undertaken with Timbrell Park.

2.2 Major issues

The plan of management of the park seeks to address the major issues identified by park users, residents and council officers. These issues can be summarised as follows:

- * Drainage. Timbrell Park suffers from inundation during wet weather due to its level and poor grading, and because of this the park is only partly covered with grass.
- * Lack of shade. In interviews with park users this was the most frequently mentioned negative aspect of the park.
- * Exposure. The absence of trees not only means a lack of shade but also effective wind breaks, making the park unpleasant (except for kite flyers!) during strong winds.
- * Danger of the canal. The unfenced canal along Dobroyd Drive has been a concern of many residents.

- * Uneven playing fields. The fact that the park is on reclaimed land has caused variations in the playing surface over the years.
- * No floodlighting. The absence of floodlighting has impeded night training for sporting codes which use Timbrell Park. However this is soon to be rectified with the installation of lights near the northern end of the park.
- * Underutilisation. Residents around the park whilst appreciating the need for sporting fields felt they would use the park more if it offered other experiences. Unfortunately, the current aesthetics of the park (lack of trees, exposure), and the absence of picnic and play facilities, for example, do little to attract people to the park. There are significant periods during the week when usage of the park is minimal.
- * The visual and auditory impact of motor vehicle traffic along the Dobroyd Canal corridor is another problem, particularly with the development of the City West Link.
- * Other issues highlighted by residents were the lack of seating in the park, the pollution of the adjoining canal, and the ugliness and sometimes dirty condition of the amenities block.

3. OBJECTIVES

Based on the issues identified in Section 2.2 the following objectives have been adopted in relation to the Timbrell Park Plan of Management.

OBJECTIVE	RATIONALE	ACTION	ESTIMATED COST	TIMEFRAME	PERFORMANCE INDICATORS
(a) To undertake an extensive tree planting and landscaping program in the park.	<p>To provide more shade in the park. To provide a 'screen' along Dobroyd canal to reduce the visual and noise impact of traffic using the city west link.</p> <p>To lessen the impact of strong winds blowing across the park.</p> <p>To improve the overall aesthetics of the park.</p> <p>To separate different activities in the park.</p>	<p>Plant according to concept plan.</p> <p>"</p>	<p>Supply, preparation of beds and planting - \$65,000.</p>	<p>Over a 5 year period from September 1994.</p>	<p>Completion of work within prescribed time limits.</p> <p>Growth of trees.</p> <p>Positive feedback from park users and residents as expressed in park surveys</p>
(b) To improve the drainage and surface quality of the park.	<p>To rectify the ponding which presently occurs in periods of heavy rainfall.</p> <p>To provide a better playing surface on the sports fields for sporting groups using the park.</p>	<p>Undertake earthworks to facilitate improved drainage in a manner which is sensitive to the environment.</p> <p>Increase soil depth and grass cover through appropriate earthworks, drainage and irrigation.</p>	<p>Cost per sports field - grading, levelling, irrigation: \$52,000 - \$76,000 per field.</p>	<p>To improve sporting field under lights, Oct - Nov 1994.</p> <p>Other fields - to be determined.</p>	<p>No ponding of water</p> <p>Satisfaction with field quality to be gauged via user survey. Aim is for an 80% satisfaction rate within 2 years of commencement of work.</p>

OBJECTIVE	RATIONALE	ACTION	ESTIMATED COST	TIMEFRAME	PERFORMANCE INDICATORS
<p>(c) To provide opportunities for residents to participate in more diversified non structured recreational activities.</p>	<p>To make the park more appealing to residents and thus improve the utilisation of the park.</p> <p>To balance the needs of the general community against those of active sporting organisations.</p>	<p>Provide barbecue and picnic shelters in designated positions with adequate landscape screening.</p> <p>Provide seating & signage to promote passive activities in the park.</p> <p>Construct a cycle track for small children in the south west part of the park and also a cycle track around the perimeter of the park.</p> <p>Construct a playground in the south west part of the park (refer concept plan) incorporating equipment which provides variety and meets the needs of specific age groups, and also caters for children with disabilities.</p>	<p>\$75,000</p> <p>\$10,000</p> <p>\$25,000 (small track) \$90,000 (large track)</p> <p>\$100,000</p>	<p>To be determined.</p> <p>To be determined.</p> <p>To be determined</p>	<p>Again, satisfaction with park improvements to be gauged through user surveys.</p> <p>Usage of facilities.</p> <p>All equipment to comply with the Australian Standard.</p>

OBJECTIVE	RATIONALE	ACTION	ESTIMATED COST	TIMEFRAME	PERFORMANCE INDICATORS
(c) Continued...	To increase the utilisation of the park.	Investigate the installation of synthetic cricket wickets and a second baseball net and diamond.	\$75,000	To be determined.	Usage of facilities.
(d) To ensure that the interests of sports people using the park are preserved and enhanced wherever possible.	So that Timbrell Park retains its position as a significant sports field in the municipality.	Improve drainage and ground surface (refer pt b). Provide night lighting - refer concept plan. Provide seats around sports fields.	Night lighting \$35,000 \$15,000	Installed July 1994. Operational when field upgraded November 1994.	Completion within set time frame.
(e) To complete the fencing of the Dobroyd Canal.	So that the danger of small children (and adults) falling into the canal is minimised.	Fence northern side of the canal with pool fencing.	\$20,000	To be determined.	Completed on time and complies with Australian Standard.
(f) To improve the layout of sports fields in the park and encourage multiple use of fields wherever possible, eg soccer/hockey/touch football.	So that the layout of the sports fields accord with the overall plan for the park and to promote efficiency in use of the fields.	Rearrange layout of fields as suggested on concept plan. Locate cricket wickets clear of sporting fields. Provide basketball court in south west corner of park.	\$10,000 (See (c)) \$20,000	To be determined. " "	

OBJECTIVE	RATIONALE	ACTION	ESTIMATED COST	TIMEFRAME	PERFORMANCE INDICATORS
<p>(g) To implement effective and efficient management practices so that park infrastructure is maintained in a safe and satisfactory condition.</p>	<p>So that the risks to park users and potential for claims against Council are minimised.</p> <p>So that users enjoy a park which is well maintained and aesthetically pleasing.</p>	<p>Implement an appropriate maintenance strategy for grounds and facilities.</p> <p>Institute a playground maintenance schedule to ensure safe and reliable equipment.</p>	-	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p>	<p>High satisfaction rate (90% within 2 years of work commencing) with maintenance and facility standards - determined by regular exit surveys of park users.</p>
<p>(h) To provide a wetlands area in the park to recreate part of the original ecosystem.</p>	<p>To encourage bio-diversity.</p> <p>To improve aesthetics of the park.</p> <p>To rectify drainage problems (refer pt b).</p> <p>To provide an educational resources and at the same time an opportunity to monitor river pollution.</p>	<p>Undertake a feasibility study of the wetland area prior to construction.</p> <p>Undertake earthworks and construction to create wetlands area.</p> <p>Plant representative species of original flora.</p> <p>Relocate litter boom on canal.</p>	<p>\$10,000</p> <p>\$250,000</p>	<p>To be determined.</p> <p>"</p> <p>"</p> <p>"</p>	<p>To determine whether the project is feasible.</p> <p>Increase in use of wetlands area.</p> <p>Attraction of birds.</p> <p>Positive feedback from park users and school groups gauged through surveys.</p>

OBJECTIVE	RATIONALE	ACTION	ESTIMATED COST	TIMEFRAME	PERFORMANCE INDICATORS
(i) To provide access to open spaces sites and facilities where deemed practicable.	So that people with disabilities enjoy the opportunities the park affords.	Consult with the Access Committee at various stages in the development of the park to ensure play, BBQ and toilet facilities are accessible.	\$50,000 for improved toilet facilities (including accessible toilet).	To be determined.	Equipment/facilities comply with the Australian Standard.
(j) Review and analyse usage patterns of the park.	To determine whether the expenditure and developments in the park are meeting the desired objectives.	Undertake an annual survey of users of the park, and monitor park usage via "snap shot" observations at an appropriate time during the year.	\$1,000	Survey November 1995, then annually.	Survey of 100 users of the park at various times during the day and week - record positive and negative comments. 20% annual increase in park utilisation during 1995-1998 period.
(k) To facilitate community input into the development of the park wherever possible.	So that the park development accords with the interests and needs of residents and park users.	Convene meeting with residents to discuss major developments in the park, eg prior to playground development. Encourage community participation, eg tree planting.	\$500	As appropriate.	

OBJECTIVE	RATIONALE	ACTION	ESTIMATED COST	TIMEFRAME	PERFORMANCE INDICATORS
(l) To prepare a schedule of works to be undertaken in the park over the next 5 years and include in Council's Section 94 community facilities plan.	So that developer levies can be used for the embellishment of open space areas such as Timbrell Park which have municipal wide significance.	Prepare schedule and review annually.	Nil	April - May 1994	Task completed on time and reviewed annually
(m) To take into account parking and traffic consideration at each stage of development.	So that park development accords with the interests and needs of residents' and park users.	Submit plans to the Traffic Committee for consideration. To be discussed at resident's meeting.	\$1,000	With each stage of development.	Satisfied residents and park users. Limited parking and traffic problems.

4. PRIORITY WORK SCHEDULE

1. Floodlighting of soccer field on the northern end of the park.
2. Upgrading of two fields under floodlights, including the installation of sprinklers.
3. Extensive tree planting and landscaping program (as per concept plan) involving local residents.
4. Establishment of the playground, picnic area and children's cycle track in the southern part of the park.
5. Upgrade toilet facilities closest to Ingham Avenue.

This would be Stage 1 - further development would occur as funds become available.
6. Levelling of other playing fields, improve drainage and surface condition of the park.
7. Change layout of sports fields as per concept plan.
8. Establishment of wetland area (pending feasibility study report).
9. Construct bike track around the perimeter of the park.
10. Upgrade toilet and change facilities.

Note

The time frame for each stage of development will be dependent on available funding.

Estimated costs are detailed in the Plan of Management.

Seating would be installed at various stages in the park's development.

Re-examine the position of the perimeter biketrack when this stage of development is being considered.

2

ITEM 5 (143.23) **TIMBRELL PARK - PLAN OF MANAGEMENT
REPORT OF COMMUNITY WORKER - RECREATION 1/9/94**

At the Council meeting 21.6.94 in relation to Timbrell Park it was resolved:

1. THAT the Concept Plan and Draft Plan of Management be adopted in principle.
2. THAT parking and traffic considerations be taken into account at each stage of the development.
3. THAT a feasibility study of the wetland area be undertaken at an appropriate time depending on the staging of the work.
4. THAT the position of the perimeter bike track be re-examined when this stage of development is being considered.
5. THAT the installation of synthetic cricket wickets and a second baseball net and diamond be investigated.
6. THAT the Draft Plan of Management be advertised and re-exhibited for the statutory 28 days prior to formal adoption by Council.

The Draft Plan of Management has been advertised and re-exhibited for the statutory 28 days. No further comments were received from residents.

The following amendments have been made (refer to Timbrell Park Plan of Management previously circulated) based on the above resolutions of Council:

1. Page 6 - 3 Change "Policy" to "Objectives".
2. Page 9 (c) Under Action include "Investigate the installation of synthetic cricket wickets and a second baseball net and diamond"
3. Page 10 (h) Under Action include "undertake a feasibility study of the wetland area prior to construction".
4. Page 12 (m) Under Objective include "To take into account parking and traffic considerations at each stage of development"
5. Page 13 Under Note, fourth sentence - "Re-examine the position of the perimeter bike track..."

It will be necessary for a Development Application to be submitted for the work to be undertaken in Timbrell Park.

RECOMMENDATIONS

THAT the Plan of Management for Timbrell Park be adopted.

THAT the committee endorse the lodging of a Development Application, with the Plan of Management attached to support the statement of environmental effects.

Marjorie Ferguson

Marjorie Ferguson

TIMBRELL PARK - STATEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS

The Plan of Management for Timbrell park aims to capitalise on its prominent foreshore position by undertaking landscape works which enhance the aesthetic qualities of the park and improve its appeal to residents of the Municipality. In its present state the park is open and exposed to prevailing winds, and significant pooling occurs in the park after periods of heavy rain. Timbrell Park is one of the most significant areas of open space in the Municipality and is situated along the corridor to Homebush bay, the site of the Year 2000 olympics.

The first objective in the Plan of Management is to "undertake the extensive tree planting and landscaping program in the park". The rationale for this is to provide more shade and at the same time screen the park along Dobroyd Canal to reduce the visual and noise impact of traffic using the City west link; to lessen the impact of strong winds blowing across the park; and to improve the overall aesthetics of the park.

The second objective is to "improve the drainage and surface quality of the park" in order to rectify ponding and improve the surface of the sports field. Earthworks to facilitate improved drainage will be undertaken in a manner which is sensitive to the environment and not at odds with concerns of local residents. Mounding which is carried out will be low and landscaped where possible. The intent is to increase soil depth and grass cover in significant areas of the park through appropriate earthworks drainage and irrigation.

One major objective is "to provide a wetlands area in the park to recreate part of the original ecosystem". The practicality of this is to be the subject of a feasibility study, to be undertaken between February and April 1995. The rationale behind the wetlands area is to encourage bio-diversity, improve aesthetics, to provide an educational resource and at the same time an opportunity to monitor river pollution.

The Open Space Planning Policies which were adopted by Council at its meeting on the 20th December 1994 will guide the development and management of open space in the Municipality such as Timbrell Park.

These policies are listed below:

- * *To provide a wide range of quality open space recreation and leisure experiences in order to meet the needs of a diverse community.*
- * *To undertake an increased tree planting and landscape program throughout the Municipality, involving the community wherever possible.*
- * *To identify and conserve areas of heritage significance, ecological significance*

and/or environmentally sensitive areas¹.

- * To identify and conserve the habitat of native fauna².*
- * To promote the foreshore as a significant feature of the Drummoyne Municipality and ensure its continual improvement and conservation.*
- * To ensure that opportunities to maximise public access to the foreshore are addressed in the Section 94 Contributions Plan.*
- * To use the **principles** contained in the Open Space Planning Policy Report in the planning and development of play facilities.*
- * To ensure that when planning and developing all open space sites, consideration be given to providing access for people with special needs, especially people with disabilities.*
- * To adopt a low maintenance but high quality landscape strategy for many of the smaller pocket parks.*
- * To foster the linkage of open space areas throughout the Municipality, and surrounding areas, via walkways, cycle routes and directional signage.*
- * To progressively upgrade and increase picnic facilities throughout the district parks in the Municipality.*
- * To provide new amenities blocks that are creative in design, sympathetic to surroundings, accessible, and close to picnic and play areas.*
- * To ensure that community consultation is a key component of open space planning.*

¹This will be undertaken when preparing Plans of Management.

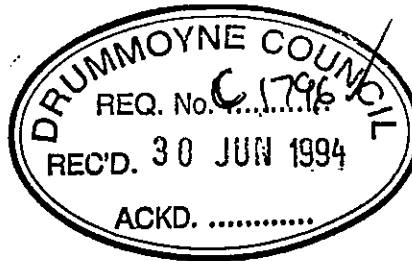
²This will be undertaken when preparing Plans of Management.

YOUR REF pq 143-23
 OUR REF MN94R88
 CONTACT OFFICER M. Hogan
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The General Manager
 Drummoyne Council
 PO Box 117
 DRUMMOYNE 2047



Attention: Marjorie Ferguson

Dear Madam,

DRAFT PLAN OF MANAGEMENT FOR TIMBRELL PARK

I refer to your letter of 27th May 1994 providing a copy of the draft plan of management for Timbrell Park.

This Office has perused the subject document and is considered to be satisfactory to exhibit for public comment. Subject to the satisfactory resolution of any valid issues arising from the exhibition process, the draft plan should be appropriate for the management and ongoing development of the park.

However, it should be noted that this Office considers it unnecessary for the draft plan to become a formal plan of management under the Crown Lands Act, 1989.

Yours faithfully,

for District Manager.

27 JUN 1994

CIL	TPG
FIN	WKS.
T.B.&D.	COM P
P.P.	D.T.C
MAYOR	G.M.
D.W.&S.	D.E.&S.S.
D.A.&F.	C.M.P.
T.	R.A.
E.A.	M.F.

Handwritten initials and number: JRS 417

Handwritten initials and number: MF 308



The Department of Conservation and Land Management incorporates: the Crown Lands Service, Soil Conservation Service, Land Information Centre, Valuer-General's Office, Land Titles Office and Forestry Policy Unit.

