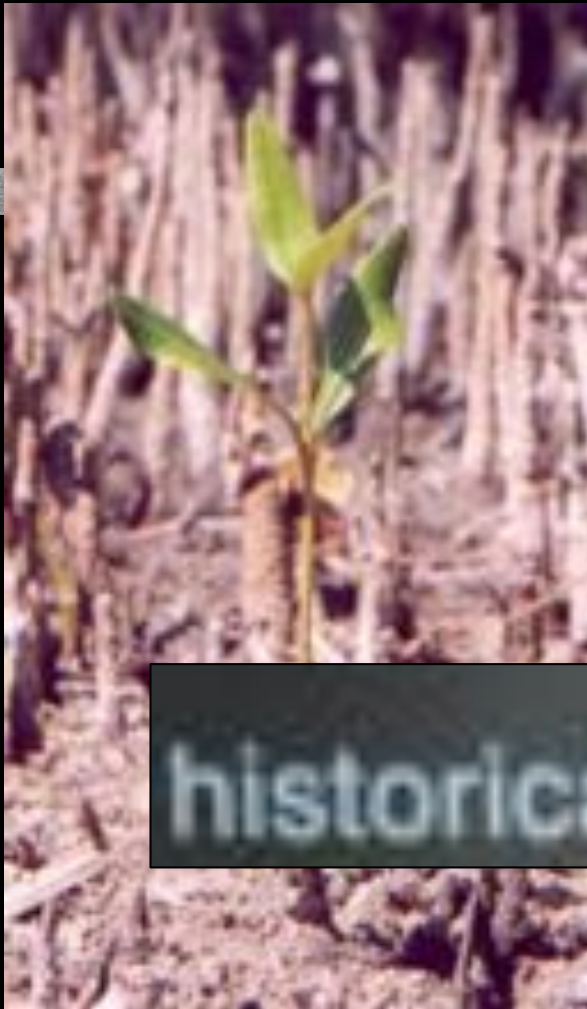


Invaders or victims?



Mangroves,
botanical politics
& urban modernity

historical neglect

Restoring Habitat

neglect of both
ay and Rozelle Bay
history of degradation
that has occurred over time to many
Sydney Harbour tributaries. This
included estuary theft, contamination
with sewage, industrial waste and
nutrient runoff, the loss of vegetation
and the over-harvesting of biological
resources.

Heather Goodall
Environment
& Society
CCS June 2010

Georges River & its parklands



1. Sewage pollution





**Native, endemic
AND invasive
mangroves**

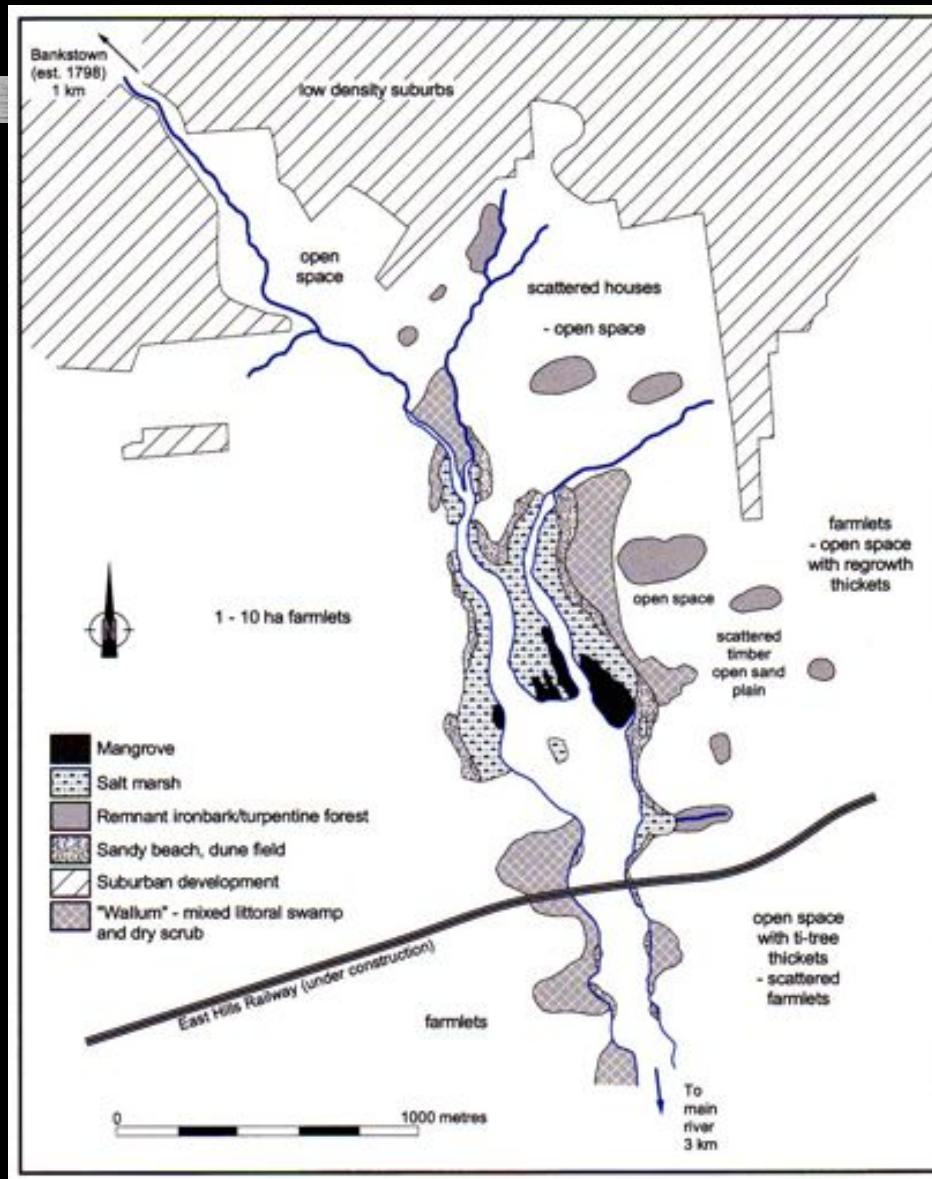
Silt & sewage

- by 1954, Sydney's population increase already double that predicted in 1948
- Three greatest increases on Georges River:
 - From 1946 to 1961, Bankstown +adjacent Fairfield - greatest absolute increase + 160,000 people or 240%
 - Sutherland + 82,562 people or 282%
 - Sewage plans from 1920s fall far behind
- Most sewage from homes + hostels -> river
 - River closed due to *e. coli* content in 1962
- NO CONTENT CONTROLS of discharges into river till 1973 Clean Waters Act

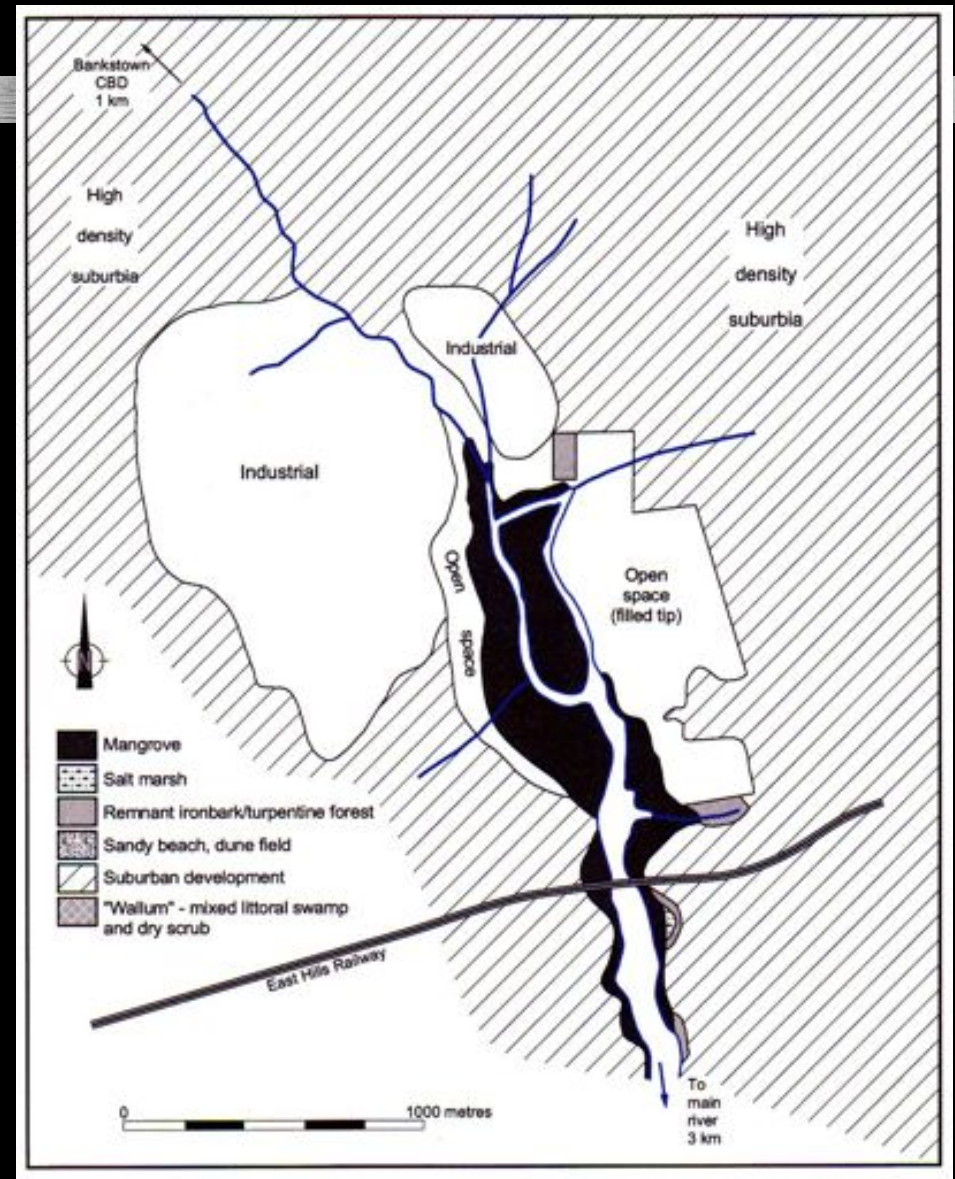
Recognising sociality in the Anglo-Irish past



Salt Pan Creek 1930



...and 1986



Reclaiming sociality



Is this historical neglect?

2. Miasmas, swamps & 'lost' land



Two birds with one stone.....



National Library of Australia

ria.pic-vn3696006-y

'It is tragic to see the waterways silting to this extent and anything that can rid the river of these unsightly mudflats and foul mangrove swamps should be applauded by everyone..... They are a noxious weed and a cancerous growth' Hurstville Council Engineer 1968.

.....they were blokes who weren't working out too good in the garbage service....

..... so they'd give them an axe and say: "Go down there and chop a few mangroves out, that'll sort you blokes out."

So that was the way we treated some of the garbos when they got a bit obstreperous....

Class, garbage & environmental justice

- A study in 1972 found that leaching from putrescible (that is liquid and rotting) garbage was making its way at an alarming rate into Sydney's waterways. But three of the four most smelly and dangerous dumps were on the Georges River at Liverpool, Salt Pan Creek and Mill Creek, all flowing into the stretch of the river managed by the Bankstown Municipality.



**Biddy Giles on
Georges River
1860s – 1880s**

3. Tourism & commodities

**Ellen Anderson at Salt
Pan Creek 1924**



Wes Simms at La Perouse
1930s - carving
mangrove 'knees' from
Salt Pan Creek



Evicting A King



KING BURRAGA, of the Thirroul tribe, who has dreams of a double coronation.

Burruga, King of the Thirroul aboriginals, is to be evicted with his people from their huts at Salt Pan Creek, Peakhurst.

Joe Anderson: 'natives', conservation & forced removal



BURRUGA, King of Thirroul aboriginals, N.S.W., at right, bow-and-

RSPCA '...canned the king's ankles for killing it....'

tended towards the "wallaby" theory, canned the King's ankles for killing it, anyway, whatever it was.

101 MAN, January, 1938



Protective

mangroves

Bob Haworth, born 1938:

*'Now everyone had this
irrational fear
of mangroves...'*

Mangroves & ecology

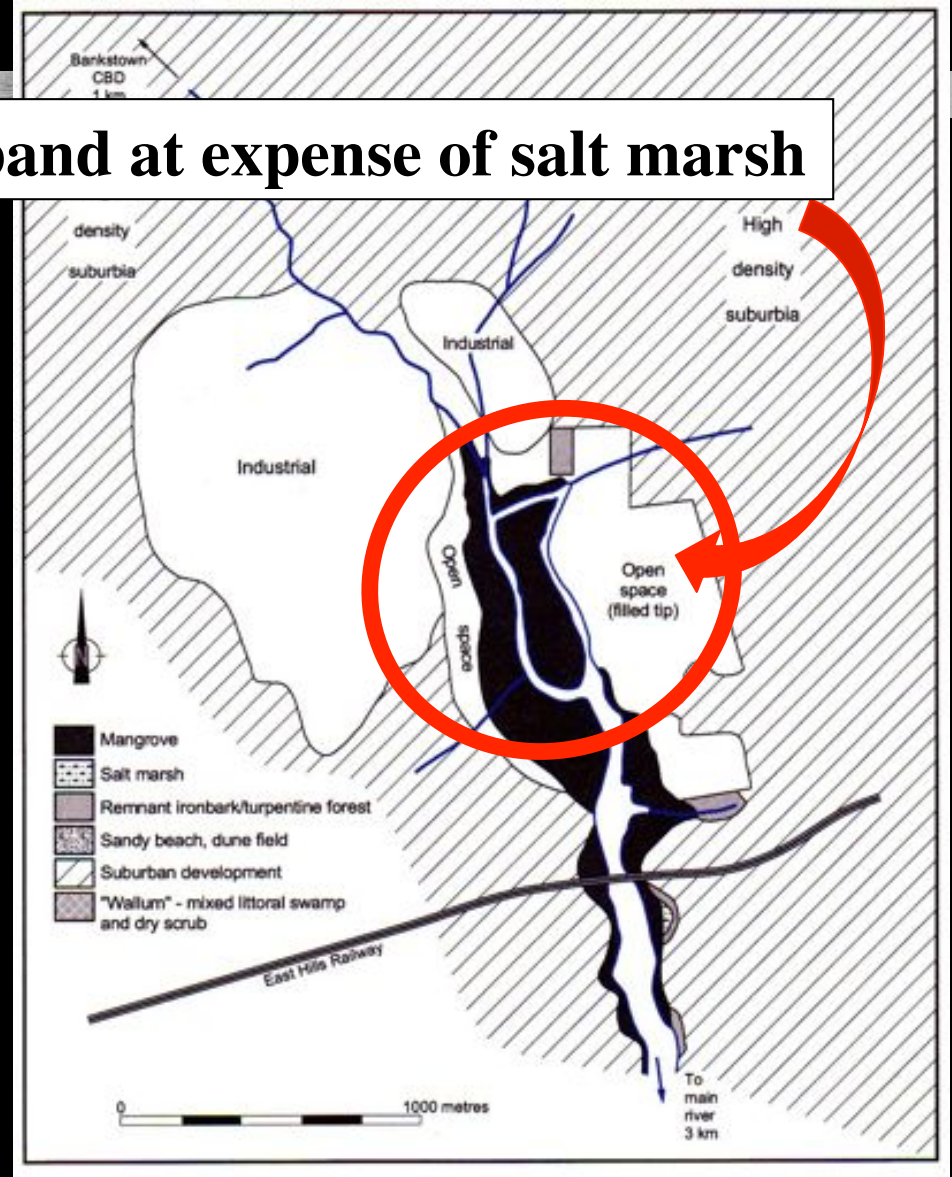
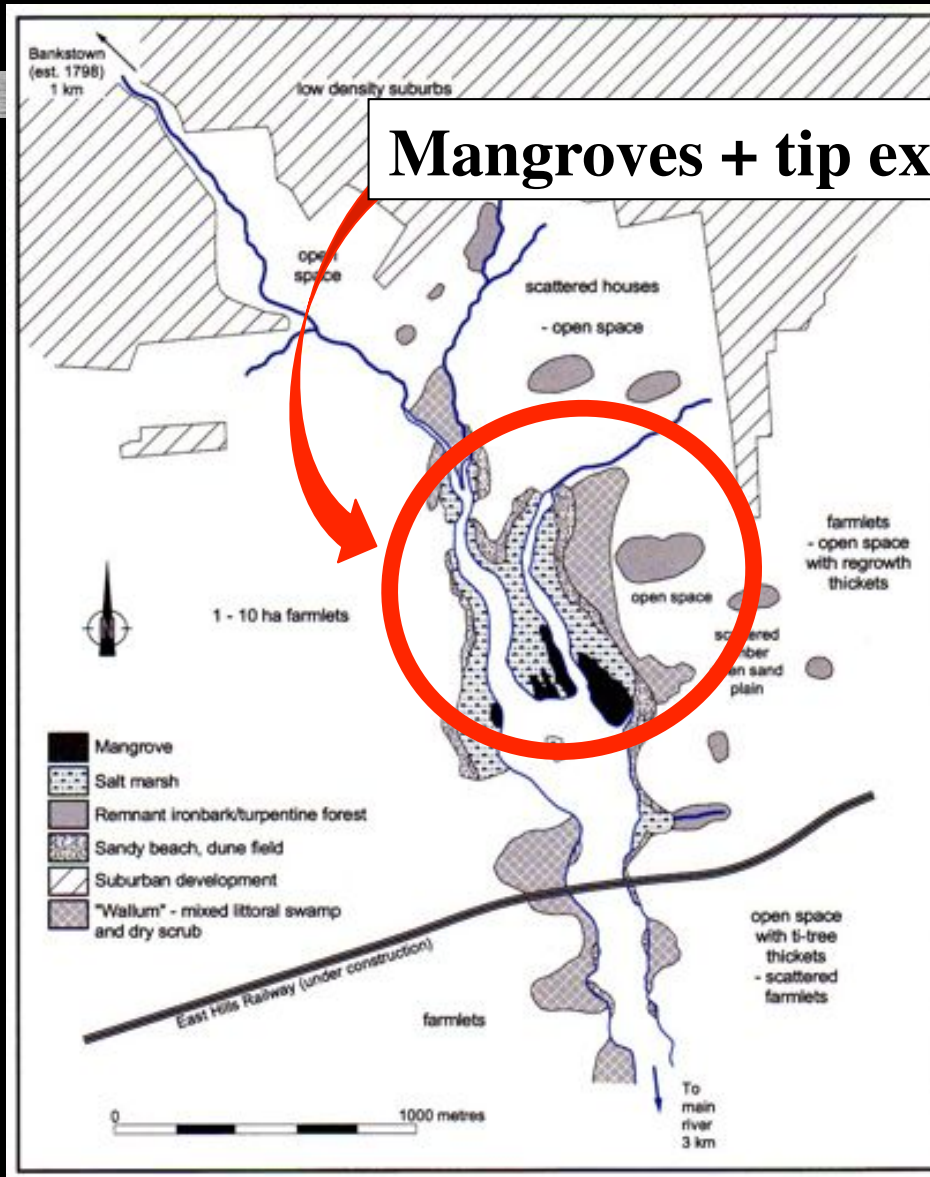




Salt Pan Creek 1930

...and 1986

Mangroves + tip expand at expense of salt marsh





**And new
stories of
change....**



Salt water mangroves: pointy leaves



Fresh water mangroves:
rounded leaves





