Proposed Name

Ibrox Park

A place name for a Portion of land in Leichhardt, NSW; it was first used in the 1880's and adopted as a school name, Ibrox Park Boys High School 1960-76; it is no longer in use.

Pronunciation

Ibrox (English: 'aibroks; Scottish Gaelic: Àth Bruic "badger ford") Park

The name lbrox is believed to come from the Gaelic for "badger's set". A collective name for a group of badgers is a "cete". Accordingly badger dens are called "setts". Another source claims lbrox means "badger ford".

Local Government Area

Leichhardt Municipal Council.

Parish

Petersham.

County

Cumberland.

Latitude

33.8786<sup>0</sup>

Longitude

151.1574<sup>0</sup>

Lot DP/Portion

Part of Lot 100, DP1147039.

Other References

- 1. UBD Street Directory, 09 Sydney and Blue Mountains, 45<sup>th</sup> Edition. Universal Publishers Pty Ltd 2009. Macquarie Park, NSW, Australia.
- 2. Leichhardt Municipality Map, 1880's
- 3. NSW Land and Property Information:

DP 1147039, Cadastral Records Viewer, 19 January 2012,

DP 53885 (FP53885), 18 February 1875, and

DP 1147034, 12 December 2008.

Description of Feature including location and extent

Ibrox Park was a place name for a site bounded by Derbyshire and Balmain Roads in the suburb of Leichhardt, NSW. The site is bounded by Derbyshire and Balmain Roads. **Reference 1**.

The extent of the original site is shown by the Leichhardt Municipality Map, 1880's, LPI Cadastral Records and delineated in parts by DP 53885 and DP 1147039. **References 2, 3, 4 and 5**.

The site is presently part of the Sydney Secondary College and enclosed within the southern part Lot 100, DP1147039, **Reference 5**.

#### Reason for choice of name

The place name of Leichhardt's Ibrox Park was originally named after Ibrox Park in Glasgow, Scotland; it is located on the south side of the River Clyde. Ibrox is also the name of a district in the City of Glasgow next to the District of Govan.

Ibrox Park became the renowned home of the Rangers' Football Club; it is now known as Ibrox Stadium. <sup>i</sup>

Ibrox Park was more than a football ground; it was a place where Scottish pride was exemplified and a rallying place that enlivened Scottish spirit. From the time Glasgow's Ibrox Park first opened its gates for a game between Rangers and Preston North End it was not just about a place where football was played; it epitomized what it was to be Scottish. It was likely when the Rangers first moved to the "Old Ibrox Park" in 1887 or when the "New Ibrox Park" was opened on 30 December 1899 that sparked the naming of Leichhardt's Ibrox Park. 1

Leichhardt's Ibrox Park has been thought to be named by Scottish immigrants/descendents that played football on the site and named it after Glasgow's Ibrox Park.<sup>2</sup>

The place name Ibrox Park first appeared in the Leichhardt Municipality Map, 1880's.

The place name Ibrox Park was subsequently adopted as the name for a secondary school, Ibrox Park Boys High School, which opened in 1960.

Leichhardt's Ibrox Park was the site for a number of secondary schools: Ibrox Park Boys High School (1960-76), Leichhardt High (1976-05) and part of Sydney Secondary College (2005-present).

The use of the place name Ibrox Park ceased in about 1976 when Ibrox Park Boys High School was renamed Leichhardt and reorganised to include boys and girls.

The site of Ibrox Park and its associated school name, Ibrox Park Boys High, has become a faded memory – there are little historical resources, no edifices or inscriptions to its existence. In contrast, the name Ibrox continues to flourish as part of Glasgow's heritage: Ibrox Public School, Ibrox Community Complex, Ibrox Stadium the home of the Rangers Football Club and Ibox Primary School. ii

The place name Ibrox Park is part of Leichhardt's history; it is more than just a place for Scottish Immigrants to play football in a dusty Leichhardt field back in the 1880's and for school students to learn, play and grow in the 1960-76; it is a place that has been linked through a common heritage<sup>iii</sup> and a common dream for a grander life at different times; it is a place with significant historical and social values that epitomises working class aspirations when times were particularly tough; it is a place name that should not slip into obscurity.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Ryan, Terry. 2011. "Ibrox Dreaming... a Leichhardt Boy". Terry Ryan Consulting Pty Ltd., Australia.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Ryan, Terry. 2011.

Leichhardt's Ibrox Park was a place where dreams were shared by different generations struggling with similar social, economic and cultural issues. It was a place borne of personal, family and "working class" challenges. To dream of a grander place was a coping strategy, a "light on the hill" and a way of "getting through the day" for all past and present generations.<sup>3</sup>

The social and historical values of the place name Ibrox Park must be conserved; it is important that the N.S.W. Government together with N.S.W. Department of Education and Training, Sydney Secondary College, N.S.W Geographical Names Board, Leichhardt Municipal Council and Local Historical Associations take steps to conserve its significance.

It is proposed the place name and historical attributes associated with the place name lbrox Park be recorded as a heritage item in the Geographical Names Board Register. Otherwise the heritage value of the place name will be lost.

It is not proposed that the place name Ibrox Park be restored to the site. However, it is proposed that with the support of Leichhardt Municipal Council the place name Ibrox Park be included with the Geographical Names Board Register as a heritage item.

It is also proposed that the historical resources of the place name Ibrox Park and its associated school name, Ibrox Park BHS, be further developed with the NSW Department of Education and Training, Sydney Secondary College, Leichhardt Municipal Council and Local Historical Groups in relation to the following considerations:

Collating historical records.

Recording the history of Leichhardt's Secondary Schools: Leichhardt Trades School, Leichhardt Domestic Science Girls School, Leichhardt Girls High School, Leichhardt Technical School, Ibrox Park Boys High School and Leichhardt High - all forerunners of Sydney Secondary College.

Commemorating the place name Ibrox Park – building plaque/play area/garden.

Access to resources - Website, publication/article, images.

Building an association/relationship with Glasgow's Ibrox Park "namesakes" - Ibrox Park Schools and Glasgow City Council.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Ryan, Terry. 2011. "Ibrox Dreaming... a Leichhardt Boy".

Name of Local Newspaper/s

The Glebe.

La Fiamma, Italian Newspaper

Applicant's name Terrence Ryan

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Contact Person Terrence Ryan

Signature

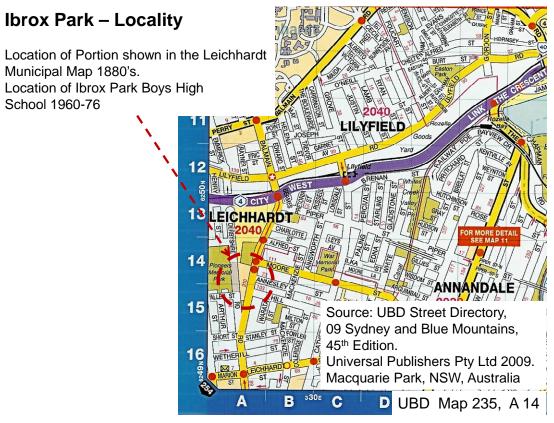
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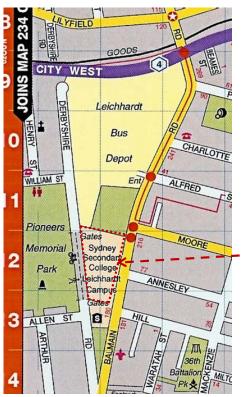
Date 22 January 2012

Other Reference Ryan, Terry. 2011. "Ibrox Dreaming... a Leichhardt Boy". Terry

Ryan Consulting Pty Ltd., Australia.

### Reference 1, Locality





Source: UBD Street Directory, 09 Sydney and Blue Mountains, 45<sup>th</sup> Edition.

Universal Publishers Pty Ltd 2009. Macquarie Park, NSW, Australia

# **Ibrox Park – Original Site**

Approximate location of the Portion shown in the Leichhardt Municipal Map 1880's. Location of Ibrox Park Boys High School 1960-76

UBD Map 11, B 12

### Reference 2, Leichhardt Municipality Map, 1880's







The Portion known as Ibrox Park was shown on the Leichhardt Municipality Map dated 1880's. It was originally bounded by Moore Street West, Derbyshire and Balmain Roads.

During that time Crown and Freehold lands were subdivided into lots or portions. The portion known as Ibrox Park was likely vacant likely Crown Land before disposal.

Ibrox Park was a colloquial name that found its way into common usage and subsequently included with Parish/Municipal Maps and Estate Plans.

Extract, Leichhardt Municipality Map, 1880's

Source: Leichhardt Municipal Council

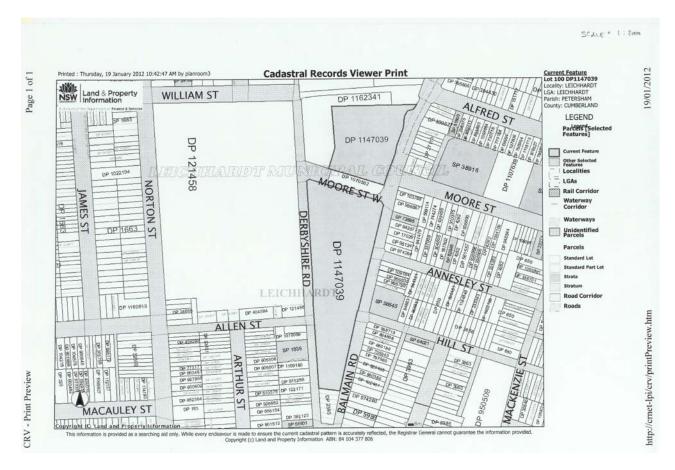


Ibrox Park Boys High School Emblem 1960-76

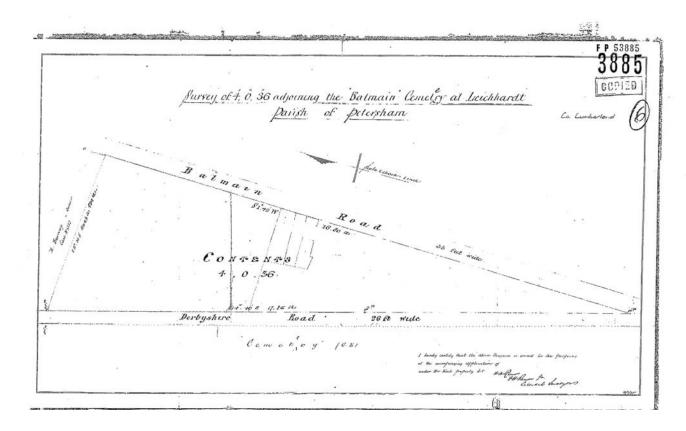
Anecdotally, it has been claimed that the first principal, of Ibrox Park Boys High School, Mr. E Smith, named the school after the place name Ibrox Park before the school opened in 1960.

Presumably, Mr. Smith would have been involved with the planning of the school and adopted the place name lbrox Park from the portion shown on the Leichhardt Municipality Map for the new school, lbrox Park Boys High School. The place name lbrox Park may have likely appeared on title and survey information as well.

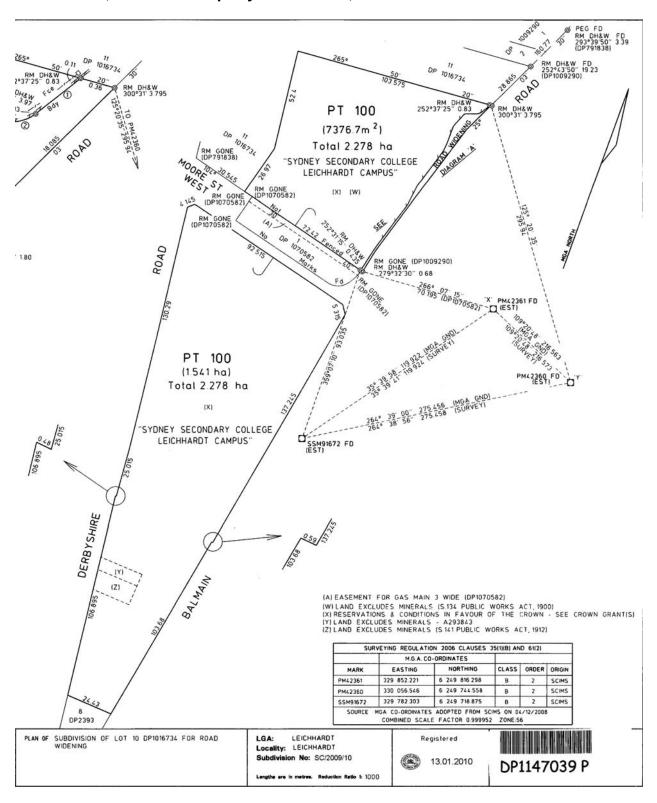
## Reference 3, Land and Property Information, Cadastral Records, Viewer



## Reference 4, Land and Property Information, DP 53885



### Reference 5, Land and Property Information, Part DP 1147039



### **End Notes**

<sup>1</sup> Glasgow's Ibrox Park is now known as Ibrox Stadium. 2012.



ii Ibrox/Ibrox Park are used to name prominent features in Glasgow Scotland: Ibrox Community Complex, Ibrox Public School, Ibrox Primary School and Ibrox Stadium.

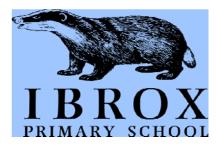
Community Complex provides grant-aids and supports community facilities across Glasgow city and is responsible for the letting of schools, public halls and the Mitchell Theatre. The complex is committed to the development of a network of facilities which will be a long-term asset to the whole community.



Ibrox Public School (est. 1906), Govan Parish School Board.



Ibrox Primary School.



Ibrox Stadium, Rangers Football Club.



<sup>iii</sup> Glasgow's and Leichhardt's Ibrox Park are linked through a common heritage.



Glasgow's "Old Ibrox Park", 1887.



Leichhardt's Ibrox Park, 1880s'.